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KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

Rockin' for fire relief

Return to **FORT MAC**

**Nickelback,
Blue Rodeo to
head benefit
concert**


**Ryan
Tumilty**
Metro | Edmonton

Stars of Canadian music are banding together to perform for free to raise funds in a relief concert for Fort McMurray evacuees in Edmonton.

"Fire Aid for Fort McMurray" will run on June 29th at Commonwealth Stadium and will be headed by Nickelback, Blue Rodeo, Corb Lund, Dean Brody, the Rankin Family and many others.

All funds raised will be donated to the Fort McMurray United Way.

Promoter Harvey Cohen, a vice-president with concert pro-

moter Live Nation, said the organization has been overwhelmed with bands offering to play, all at no cost. "We had bands reaching out to us before we even had our first meeting," he said.

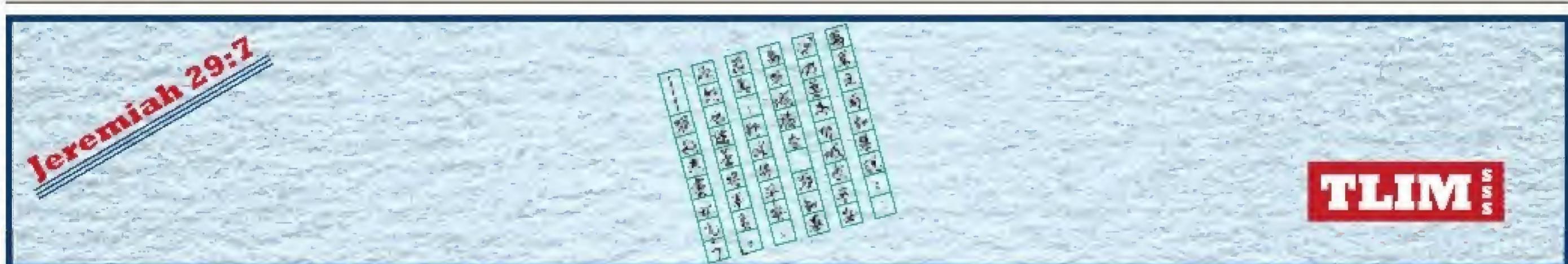
Cohen helped to organize the 2013 Alberta Flood aid relief concert following the southern Alberta floods, which raised \$2.3 million for the Calgary Foundation's flood rebuilding fund.

But there is more to the event than money, he said.

"As much as the goal is to raise an amount of money for the rebuilding of the community, the celebration and bringing the community together to just let Fort McMurray know that we're all behind them is a great experience."

Diane Shannon, executive director of the Fort McMurray United Way, said the concert is just one more in a long list of signs that all of Alberta is keeping the community in mind.

"We are really overwhelmed by the support shown to us over the last three weeks," she said.



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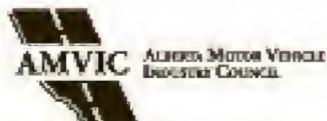
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NORTH OF EXTRAORDINARY



How to turn a city back on

Return to FORT MAC

90,000 fled the wildfires; now they want to come home

Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Edmonton

When 90,000 people fled Fort McMurray in early May, they left behind not only homes and lives, but grocery stores, gas stations and other essential services that now need to be turned back on.

And that's the challenge many are currently trying to solve: How do you do that by June 1, when the government will allow evacuees to return voluntarily? The answer: It's really complicated.

"When we evacuated the city, 90,000 people were gone. We turned off the lights and we turned off the gas and, 24 days later, we have issues," said Bob Couture, Fort McMurray's director of protective services, who is overseeing the work of turning the community back on.

Couture said turning a community's services back on leaves hundreds of items to think about and most have been more complex than people anticipate.

"You expect a grocery chain might just be able to turn the lights back on, but it's not — it's a very complicated process," he said.

Just getting staff from grocery stores or other companies



ATCO has been working for weeks to restore gas and power service to the community. RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

up to the city to operate the facilities is a challenge, he said. "The hotels have been down, so we have to get those up and running for accommodations."

Fort McMurray is more than 400 kilometres north of Edmonton, where many evacuees and workers are now based. The distance means that everyone coming to help re-start the community has to be housed and fed, which Couture said is a major challenge.

"There is only one way into Fort McMurray right now and that's by road and it's five hours



We are going to have a new normal in our community.

Bob Couture, who's overseeing the restoration

away from everything else."

He said they've also had to be selective in who they have let back in.

"We have a large community of 90,000 people and everybody wants to come in and everybody wants to help, and there is no room for everybody to go," he said.

The phased re-entry of the community is set to begin next

week. Much of the city's electricity and gas service has been restored but it may be well into June before a boil-water advisory for drinking water can be lifted.

Couture said getting information out to the people has been one of the biggest challenges in planning for that.

"One thing we always fail on is not being able to com-

municate enough."

And even after re-entry, Couture said there are going to remain hiccups.

"We are going to have a new normal in our community and what that is, I really don't know," he said.

The community's mayor, Melissa Blake, said residents need to be prepared for challenges and for not everything to work as planned, but stressed the community will get through it.

"You need to look not only at the moment that you are in, but what it can be in future."

AID

Guide to re-entry released

For Fort McMurray residents looking to go home next week, the Alberta government and municipality of Wood Buffalo have released a guide to re-entry.

Anyone returning is urged to read the entire package carefully in order to minimize danger.

Some of the major points:

- You'll need to bring basic necessities to last for up to 14 days including food, drinking water and prescriptions.
- The hospital won't be fully operational until after June 15.
- Healthy adults should only return when the Air Quality Health Index is 6 or less.
- There is a boil water advisory for the regional municipality of Wood Buffalo, meaning water must be boiled for at least one minute before drinking, or used to brush teeth or wash raw foods.

• Exercise safety and caution when returning to property by wearing items such as long pants, a long-sleeved shirt and rubber boots.

• Wear an N-95 dust mask (disposable facemask to filter dust and other air particulates) to reduce potential smoke exposure. Masks are available at hardware stores.

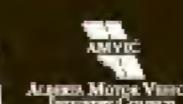
The booklet also includes checklists for returning home, disposing of food and cleaning up mould. The Canadian Red Cross is offering free clean-up kits to each household, which contain things like scrub brushes, cleaners, bags, gloves and safety glasses. METRO



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Governments pitch in pass

TRANSIT

Low-income households to benefit from joint program

Lucie Haines
Metro | Edmonton

An estimated 20,000 low-income residents in Edmonton will get a 60 per cent break on their monthly bus pass costs starting in the fall of 2017 — a savings of about \$55 off the current \$90 fee and, according to some, a significant boost for many in making ends meet.

The Alberta government and City of Edmonton announced the \$12.4-million pilot project Thursday, a joint venture that will see Alberta's Human Services department contribute \$6.2 million over three years to help meet the needs of the city's most vulnerable population, according to Mayor Don Iveson.

"When low-income resi-



The city and the province will split the \$12.4 million cost for a low-income transit pass program providing a 60 per cent discount on the pass and starting in mid-to-late 2017. METRO FILE

dents have to choose between food, rent and transit, this will lessen that burden — we'll see a benefit right away," he said.

Eligibility for the low-income transit pass will be based on 100 per cent of the

It will be easier for families to get around the city.

Irfan Sabir, human services minister

province's Low-income Cut-Off rate, which is \$24,600 in annual income for one person, or \$45,712 for a household income with four residents.

Renee Vaugeois, co-chair of the city's working group on

transportation and housing, said offering the reduced-rate pass is a simple thing that can help people significantly.

"Everyone has the right to get around and fully participate in society," she said.

"For many, it's difficult to hold onto a full-time job without transit, so this is a step in the right direction."

The pass is also key to connecting families to community supports and resources, said Irfan Sabir, the minister of Human Services.

"It will be easier for families to get around the city to jobs and school, and to access health care and government services," he said.

"We want everyone to have the opportunity to benefit from and participate in community life."

Iveson said the pass is essentially a targeted subsidy that uses public dollars to assist the working poor in offsetting what is often a major household expense: transportation.

That very approach is a key recommendation for End Poverty Edmonton, Iveson added.

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Covenant support building

PROPERTY

Agreements are aiming to hinder city's infill plans

Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Edmonton

Mayor Don Iveson said residents signing restrictive covenants to prevent infill developments in their neighbourhood should think twice, but also conceded there's nothing the city can or should do to stop them.

Local movements — designed to push landowners to register a covenant on their title that prevents them or future owners from splitting the lot to make way for two homes — have sprung up in several Edmonton neighbourhoods, including Rio Terrace and Westbrook.

Council opened up much of the city to lot splitting last year through bylaw changes and infill homes have begun popping up in more neighbour-



An infill development on the west side of downtown is moving ahead, but many neighbourhoods in the city are seeing covenants that would prevent this from happening again. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

hoods, though the city is still well off hitting its target of 25 per cent of all new development taking place in mature neighbourhoods.

Iveson said it's not the city's

place to push back against the covenant movements. "I would say that is between private landowners," he said. "I think people are limiting their options, but they are free to do

so."

Iveson also said people aren't thinking about the long term. "If I was in one of those neighbourhoods, I would not sign one of those myself."

Darren Jackinsky is organizing a drive to get the covenants in place in his Westbrook community. He said he expects 85 per cent of residents to sign up, and added he doesn't want to see his neighbourhood lose its character.

He said infill homes remove the distance between homes and dwarf the homes that are already there.

"It's now coming twice as close and it is going to be two and half stories high, with a roof-top balcony looking down into someone's backyard," he said. He said he expects the covenants to make his community more attractive to future buyers, not less.

"People are seeing what we are doing and saying 'I want to be where this community is protecting itself and protecting its character.'

ReMax Realtor Jen Osmond said the covenants will drive away investors interested in lot splitting, but they will also attract buyers wanting to live in a community that looks a certain way.

"It's two sides of the coin and I think it is easy to justify either side."

CRIME

Man faces voyeurism, child porn charges

Kevin Maimann
Metro | Edmonton

Police have charged a man with making child pornography following reports of voyeurism in a West Edmonton Mall movie theatre washroom.

Officers received a call last Sunday, shortly before 4 p.m., alleging a man had used a cellphone to record video of a boy using the washroom at Scotiabank Theatre. Officers arrested the suspect upon arrival.

A video that allegedly shows the suspect being confronted by the victim's parents popped up on Facebook this week and was shared more than 1,700 times.

Edmonton Police Service Sgt. Steve Sharpe said police have not confirmed the video shows the suspect.

Aaron Voon, 41, has been charged with making child pornography, possession of child pornography and voyeurism.

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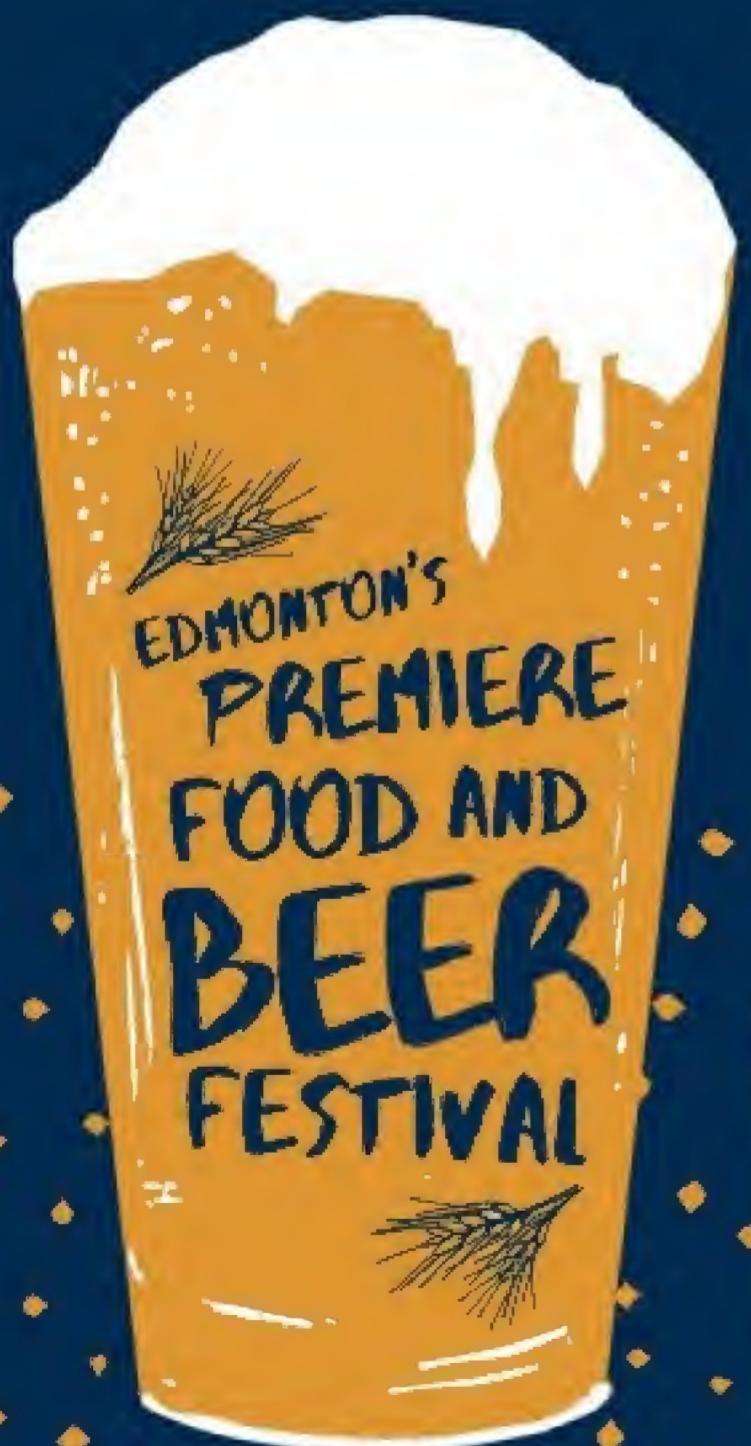


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POLITICS

Alberta opposition parties give Ontario premier cold reception

Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne came to Alberta to discuss the environment but instead found herself publicly ridiculed on the floor of the legislature as the leader of a failed, debt-ridden enterprise.

As Wynne looked on from the Speaker's gallery during question period Thursday, the opposition Wildrose party demanded to know why Wynne, a Liberal, was invited while right-centrist and next-door-neighbour Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall was not.

"Invite Premier Wall here! Invite Premier Wall," Wildrose finance critic Derek Fildebrandt shouted at Premier Rachel Notley

as she tried to answer a question.

At one point government house leader Brian Mason looked across the aisle at Fildebrandt and said matter-of-factly, "you are so tacky."

Fildebrandt said Ontario was an example of how not to govern given Alberta is moving to rack up high debt to pay for capital and operating spending.

"Currently Ontario has the largest subnational sovereign debt on the planet," Fildebrandt said.

"They're now even receiving equalization payments. It's an example of what happens when a government fails to get its spending under control."

Fildebrandt labelled Ontario's greenhouse gas emissions plan a failure and demanded to know if Notley supported it.

"For power consumers it's meant skyrocketing power bills, massive subsidies to unprofitable initiatives, and auditor general reports into billions of wasted tax dollars," he said.

Notley eventually had enough.

"In the past, when Alberta has actually been able to play a leadership role in the country, they have done so by being grown ups," she said.

Earlier Thursday, Wynne met with Notley and later, to reporters, praised Notley's climate change plan.

Wynne said Notley's blueprint to reduce Alberta's carbon footprint gives the province more social licence to pitch for more energy infrastructure.

The premiers also announced a plan to pursue joint initiatives in areas such as reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Notley's government is implementing a climate plan that includes a broad-based carbon tax, a cap on oilsands emissions and the phase out of coal-fired electricity.



Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne and Alberta Premier Rachel Notley speak at the Alberta legislature Thursday during Wynne's visit to the province. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Michelle and Katherine Plouffe are both members of Team Canada's national basketball team. The Edmonton born players both play professionally in France. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

Twins ready to rock Rio's court

OLYMPIC GAMES

Sisters reunite to play for Team Canada's basketball team



Alex
Boyd
Metro | Edmonton

Before Michelle Plouffe walked out as part of Team Canada for the opening ceremonies of the London Olympics in 2012, all she wanted to do was talk to her twin sister, who wasn't picking up the phone.

"Everyone was calling their family and I was calling Katherine and I was so mad," said the Edmonton-raised basketball player. "I was like 'She's not answering her phone?! Right now?!"

Little did Katherine know that her sister and fellow player wasn't back home.

When she looked up at the stands, her mom was pointing

wildly to the seat beside her — and there was her sister.

But at the Rio Olympics this summer, Katherine won't have to call: This time both twins will be suiting up for Team Canada's women's basketball team.

"It's a unique experience just to be in the Olympics, and to do it with a sister and family member it's super special," said Katherine, sitting with her sister on a break from training in Edmonton.

The sisters started playing when they were eight, first with Woodvale Community league and then Southeast Swarm, which is where they say their passion for the game was born.

"We had coaches who made it fun for us, and I think that's a big part of development at that age, to make it fun for players," Katherine said.

Although inseparable when they were younger, they parted ways after leaving high school — Michelle played for the University of Utah, and Katherine for Marquette University in Wisconsin.

They currently play for op-

We're each other's biggest fans.

Katherine Plouffe

osing teams in a professional league in France.

But now they're back together, and getting ready for a summer of exhibition games before heading to Rio.

"Obviously it's a little different from high school," Michelle said. "It's different than when we were younger and we were together all the time, but our games have evolved and we're different players than we were five years ago so it's a lot more fun now."

Katherine adds that playing with a sibling has some challenges, but mostly it's an advantage.

"We have the support system in that on the court and on the bench we're each other's biggest fans and we want each other to do well," she said. "That's definitely a huge advantage for us."

WILDFIRE

Alleged false evacuee charged with fraud

Another person has been charged for allegedly posing as a Fort McMurray wildfire evacuee.

RCMP in Claresholm, Alta., say they got a complaint on May 12 from Family and Community Support Services about a couple that appeared to be pretending to be evacuees.

Jamie Lynn Cox, 39, of Victoria, B.C. is to appear in Fort McLeod court on June 1 on five counts of fraud under \$5,000.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

REBUILDING FORT MCMURRAY

Local businesses to get preference on contracts

giving preference to competitive bids from local firms.

Association president Charles Iggleston says his members, who are displaced right now, are frustrated and could use the work.

"The wildfire and subsequent evacuations have had a devastating impact on employers in the region," Iggleston said Thursday.

"We are committed to assisting employers in the Fort McMurray area to get access to the resources they need in their return to the community."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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How to grow a balcony garden

PLANTS AND VEGETABLES

A pro gives Metro his tips for city dwellers

Alex Boyd
Metro | Edmonton

Living in an apartment or condo like many of us do means you don't have a backyard — but it doesn't have to rule out gardening.

Justin Keats is the garden director for the Oliver Community League and teaches courses on balcony gardening, a practice he said is "definitely" on the rise, as people get more interested in food production and climate.

"I think people realize that they can do more than have these little concrete jail cells that store their snow tires, there's more you can do with that space," he said.

"It's way easier now to get the materials to do so, so why not?"

Here's how:

1. Plan your space

"Do you want a cozy space to curl up and read a book? Are you trying your hand at urban food production? That will help you decide what's the best set up for you," Keats said.

Once you've got that, measure your space. Graph paper helps with that. And start small, then get bigger.

2. The bigger the pot the better

Larger pots retain more water, and are more resistant to evaporation. Inside those pots, potting soil is much better for plants than regular dirt. And if you really want to retain moisture, add an inch or two of mulch on top.

3. For watering, less is more

"You can always add more water if it looks like the plant is struggling, but you can't take it out once you've done that," Keats said. He adds that pots dry out faster, so check them daily but only water as needed.

4. Safety first

The higher up you go, the more chances your balcony is going to be windy, Keats said. Don't overload your planters, and if you're higher than two



Balcony garden expert Justin Keats inspects his own balcony green-growing department. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

stories they should be facing in, not out. For extra security, zip tie anything attached to a railing.

5. Consider the environment

The direction you're facing is important. North balconies don't get much, south get the

most, so will need the most watering.

Those facing east and west are a combination.

"Really, just focus on the plant tags and the type of plants you're getting and how much sun they need."

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ARCHITECTURE

High praise for ex-museum building

 **Alex Boyd**
Metro | Edmonton

The former Royal Alberta Museum building has been included on the National Trust for Canada's annual list of Top 10 Endangered Places, released Thursday.

Now in its 12th year, the list is designed to bring attention to sites deemed at risk "due to neglect, lack of funding, inappropriate development and weak legislation."

The museum closed the doors of the Glenora location last December — a new location is still under construction downtown — and plans for the old building haven't been announced.

The trust calls the old building, erected in the 1960s, a "stunning example of mid-century Modern architecture," valued for its use of Tyndall limestone, marble and brass fittings.

Explaining why the building deserved a spot on the list, the website cites a Request for Proposal the government released in March to explore options for demolition and development

of the land into a green space.

In an emailed statement, Aileen Machell, press secretary to Brian Mason, the minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, said that there has been no decision made about the building and that they are currently "ensuring due diligence by looking at all options."

Those options may include reusing or repurposing the facility, or demolishing or deconstructing it, she said.



Stunning example of mid-century Modern architecture.

National Trust for Canada

"The facility is not expected to be vacated until 2019. This gives us plenty of time to look at all options, speak with the community and make an informed decision for its future use."

Other local buildings on the list include wooden grain elevators across the country, and the Spaca Moskalyk Ukrainian Catholic Church in Lamont County, east of Edmonton.



PARK DEDICATION ADVOCATE HONOURED Councillor Michael Phair's years of service as a tireless fighter for LGBT rights and urban renewal have been recognized. A park he helped create on 104 Street downtown has been renamed for him and was officially unveiled Thursday. KEVIN TUONG/METRO



AHS' aim of making health inspections of Edmonton food trucks available this year doesn't look likely. KEVIN TUONG/METRO

Food truck safety data still not ready

HEALTH

Earlier AHS projection of 2016 uncertain

 **Ryan Tumilty**
Metro | Edmonton

More than two years after Metro first wrote the story, health inspection reports for Edmonton's many food trucks are still not available online and Alberta Health Services says it's unable to say when that might change.

When Metro inquired about the safety issue last year, AHS said it was "likely" to add food truck inspections to its online database of restaurant inspections by 2016.

"A solution that will enable consistent posting of these reports across all zones (includ-

ing Edmonton) is under review, and likely to be implemented in 2016," said AHS Edmonton zone senior media advisor Kerry Williamson in March 2015.

But contacted Thursday, AHS can't confirm a specific date, according to spokeswoman Tahneen Luedee.

In an email, Luedee said work was underway to include the inspections as part of a new online database, but added they can't provide a timeline, because there is a competitive bidding process underway for that new database.

She said the system AHS now uses dates from before food trucks were a popular part of the city's food scene.

"The current system is coded to pull other inspection reports from the system, and post automatically to (the) website; however, given the current system's coding reflects a time before food trucks were included, food

truck inspection reports are not included," she said.

She added since work is underway on a complete new system, it would not be fiscally prudent to spend money updating the old one.

AHS said anyone who wants to can call the environmental health office at 780-735-1800 and receive the latest copy of a food truck inspection.

After Metro reported last summer that 30 per cent of trucks failed a fire inspection during an event last year, the city is taking a more proactive approach on

fire inspections in 2016.

Edmonton Fire Rescue Services deputy Chief Russell Croome said they held several meetings with operators earlier in the year to explain the rules.

"I believe that many of them left these meetings in March and went out and had their vehicles improved," he said. "They were appreciative of us spending time with them."

He said many of last year's failings were for relatively minor issues, but now truck operators are getting all of the details worked out.

"They had some deficiencies; if it was a complete fail we wouldn't have had allowed them to proceed."

He said crews are required now to get their gas or propane systems checked by a third-party inspector and must show that to the city before getting their licence as a vendor.

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The Greyhound station on 103 Street is set to relocate by the end of May. METRO FILE

Greyhound takes bus out of town

TRANSPORTATION

Moves its operations to VIA station at 121 Street

Lucy Haines
For Metro | Edmonton

station at 121 Street.

Peter Hamel, Greyhound Canada regional vice president, said in a statement that the company is responding to concerns about the location by providing a dedicated cab service, a Sky Shuttle to the airport and a downtown shuttle drop-off and pick-up that will run twice daily — at 7 a.m. and 1 p.m. — to downtown.

"We are excited to move to our new location and to share the facility with VIA Rail Canada," Hamel, adding having a train connection makes the location "more convenient for travel."

Since the Greyhound move was announced to make way for Rogers Place, many have called for the new bus depot to remain in the downtown, or at least be near public transit routes in order to allow those with low incomes to afford a

Not convenient. There's nothing over there.

Bus rider Lisa Nadeau

way back to the city centre.

"We offered several downtown sites to Greyhound, including the future Valley Line LRT. They chose to go where they went," said Mayor Don Iveson.

"And it's difficult to provide cost-effective transit to the area (they went)."

Nadeau said hearing about twice daily shuttles to a bus stop downtown is small comfort. "It just means it will cost me more money on top of the bus ride to have to get back downtown again. I don't like it," she said.

WILDFIRE AND WILDLIFE

Foraging bears killed in Fort Mac

Wildlife officers in Fort McMurray have killed two black bears and captured and relocated two others that were roaming in and around the fire-damaged city.

Alberta government spokesman Brendan Cox said that May 3 — the day more than 80,000 people were forced to flee a raging wildfire — also was garbage day for most residential neighbourhoods.

The stinky trash left on city streets attracted animals looking for an easy meal.

"Wildlife is attracted to unnatural food sources," Cox said from Edmonton. "Bears, for

example, can smell rotting garbage from kilometres away."

There have been 30 complaints about bears in the city in the past three weeks, he said. Although the city remains empty of residents, there are firefighters and others there working to restore utilities, repair and clean the hospital.

About 2,400 buildings were destroyed but fire crews managed to save almost 90 per cent of the oil sands city.

Workers have cleaned up most of the garbage, but foul odours will soon be returning.

Residents may be allowed back into the community

starting June 1, and those who didn't lose their homes to the flames will still need to clean up and throw out rotting food inside their refrigerators and freezers.

"We would ask returning residents to ensure their appliances, garbage or any other attractants are secured until it can be picked up or delivered to a proper waste management facility," Cox said.

A government guide on the phased re-entry process also advises people not to leave their doors open in case animals wander inside.

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Bales sit in a field beside the McBride Lake East wind turbines, located near Fort Macleod, Alta.
THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Wind, coal energy both hit records

ELECTRICITY

Province seeing more renewable projects, says spokesperson

Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Edmonton

Alberta's electricity grids has seen both its lowest use of coal and its highest use of wind in just the past few months.

On April 9, at 1 a.m., wind energy made up 22 per cent of the province's energy generation and on May 8 at 8 a.m. coal made up just 34 per cent of the province's energy, according to the Alberta Electric System Operator.

Both were records.

Angela Anderson, a spokesperson with AESO, confirmed the record totals

and said the organization is seeing a lot more renewable projects coming onto the market.

"Definitely we have had a lot of wind generation added," she said. "Wind was very high on that day and in the last few weeks we have had a lot of wind in the province."

But the record highs and lows are not the norm — coal still typically provides a significant portion of the province's electricity.

Anderson said that would change as coal plants are phased out, beginning in 2019. She said renewable won't be able to fill all of that gap, which is why many natural gas generation plants are coming online.

"We forecast it is still going to serve a large part of the load," she said. "You're always going to need a base load to fill that spot."

"Because we had abundant coal resources, we have abundant fossil fuels. So we invested in the cheap stuff, not knowing that someday we would have a problem with the pollution," he said.

"But I think us getting to 50 per cent is totally doable." KEVIN MAINMANN/METRO



Alberta could cover half its electricity with renewables: Expert

A green energy expert says the stars are aligning for Alberta's push toward renewable energy.

David Dodge, producer of the multimedia research and storytelling project Green Energy Futures, said the provincial government's ongoing \$3.4-billion investment over five years comes at a time when renewable energy sources are cheap and innovation is soaring.

Dodge said Alberta's goal of reaching 30 per cent reliance on renewable energy by 2030 is realistic. "Because we had abundant coal resources, we have abundant fossil fuels. So we invested in the cheap stuff, not knowing that someday we would have a problem with the pollution," he said.

"But I think us getting to 50 per cent is totally doable." KEVIN MAINMANN/METRO

22%

Percentage of Alberta's energy use that was provided by wind energy on April 9.

34%

Percentage that was provided by coal in May this year. Coal usually carries a lot of the load for the province's energy system.



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Famous cats trot out for city's feline festival

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All event proceeds going to local rescue organizations

Kevin Maimann
Metro | Edmonton

Instagram's most famous cat will be in Edmonton this weekend.

Nala, a grey five-year-old Siamese and Tabby mix who has nearly three million followers on the social media platform, has flown all the way from Los Angeles to be the guest of honour at the third annual Edmonton International Cat Festival.

"Every year we try to up the celebrity cat game," said festival founder Linda Hoang.

Nala will be available for photos and meet-and-greets, but she won't be the only cat on site.

There will be close to 100 felines at this year's festival, running Saturday at NAIT (11762 106 Street), including many that are up for adoption.

"We're encouraging all of our vendors and rescue organizations to bring in lots of cats. Because that's the biggest feedback we got in previous years — we thought we were offering lots of cats to pet and cuddle and adopt, but they wanted more," Hoang said.



Cat lovers take in last year's Edmonton International Cat Festival. NANC PRICE PHOTOGRAPHY

“Every year we try to up the celebrity cat game.”
Linda Hoang

Other entertainment at Saturday's festival will include a yoga class that welcomes cats, a space to pet kittens, cat story time courtesy of the Edmonton Public Library, a visit from the Edmonton Valley Zoo's serval, Kitten TV — which Hoang describes as "kind of like the fire log channel but with cats" — and various cat-related vendors and crafts.

"Basically, anything and everything to do with cats will probably be there," Hoang said.

The event doubled in attendance from 2014 to 2015, going

from 600 to 1,200 people. Hoang hopes to more than double those totals again this year, aiming for 3,000 attendees. All proceeds raised will go to Little Cats Lost, Zoey's Rescue, and the Edmonton Humane Society.

Last year's festival raised

more than \$30,000 for rescue agencies.

But even with all those cats, Hoang said watching bewildered humans is her favourite part.

"For a lot of the people, they are cat people, but the idea of going to a physical cat festival is weird for them. So it's really fun for me to kind of just stand back and watch as everyone takes it in," she said.

The festival runs from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door, and kids 12 and under get in free.

THINGS TO DO THIS WEEKEND

Knights, Pokemon and Jim Cuddy

FRIDAY

Jim Cuddy Benefit Concert

Cuddy, who has won 11 Juno Awards with the iconic Canadian band Blue Rodeo, will play for the Edmonton Public Schools Foundation to raise money for a full-day Kindergarten class at Riverbend School. Former Canadian Idol star Martin Keit will open the show with a set featuring Kindergarten singers from Tipiskin School.

WHERE: The Citadel's Shotor Theatre

WHEN: Doors at 6:30 p.m., show at 7 p.m.

SATURDAY

Pokemon Spring Championship

Heads up, anime fans. The Pokemon Spring Regional Championships are being held in cities across North America this month, and Edmonton's event is coming right up. Players will compete for the title of regional champion and an invitation to the 2016 Pokemon World Championships in San Francisco in August. The entry fee is \$20 per player for all age divisions, and competitors are asked to pre-register by e-mailing the organizer at corinnes-biz@telusplanet.net

WHEN: Registration starts at

8:30 a.m.

WHERE: Radisson Hotel South, 4440 Gateway Blvd.

Medieval May

The Knights of the Northern Realm will take you on a trip to the bad old days with a 14th Century fashion show, medieval history displays, combat in real armour, period dancing, weapon demonstrations, a medieval market and a silent auction.

WHERE: King Edward Hall, 7708 85 St.

WHEN: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Brother Octopus CD release

Edmonton's only aquatic-themed electro-indie pop group, Brother Octopus, will make a splash with the release show for its fourth studio album, Connected Through the Corals. The album includes 12 songs with a different Edmonton musician featured on each one, including members of White Lightning, Two Bears North and Kickapoo-fuss. A Gentleman's Pact and Ego the Jackal will warm the stage Saturday.

WHERE: The Almanac, 10351 Whyte Ave. (enter through the back alley)

WHEN: 8:30 p.m.

IN BRIEF

Province won't ban natural gas for heating homes

Premier Kathleen Wynne says Ontario will not ban the use of natural gas for home heating as part of its climate change action plan.

Wynne, who signed a

deal with Alberta Premier Rachel Notley in Edmonton on Thursday to develop clean technologies to fight climate change, also said she wasn't worried about California's weak market for carbon emissions. THE CANADIAN PRESS



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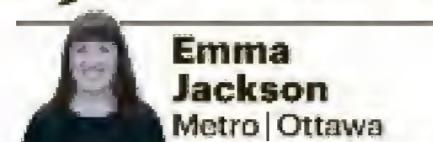
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SOLDIERS HELPING SOLDIERS

An easy project for urban coach potatoes



Ottawa Coun. Stephen Blais, left, and retired sergeant Dannelle Gauthier plant potatoes. EMMA JACKSON/METRO



Emma Jackson
Metro | Ottawa

Take one sunny balcony, add one garbage bag, a healthy serving of soil, a pinch of bone meal, and some sprouting potatoes. Add water and wait.

That simple recipe could yield you up to 100 pounds of potatoes this summer — a bounty one charity hopes you'll donate to your local soup kitchen.

Soldiers Helping Soldiers has launched the Grow Potatoes program, which aims to feed Ottawa's hungry right from the city's balconies and backyards.

To get started, you don't even need a proper planter: Just grab "a big old garbage bag," punch some drainage holes in the bottom and fill it up, said retired sergeant Dannelle Gauthier, the project's co-ordinator.

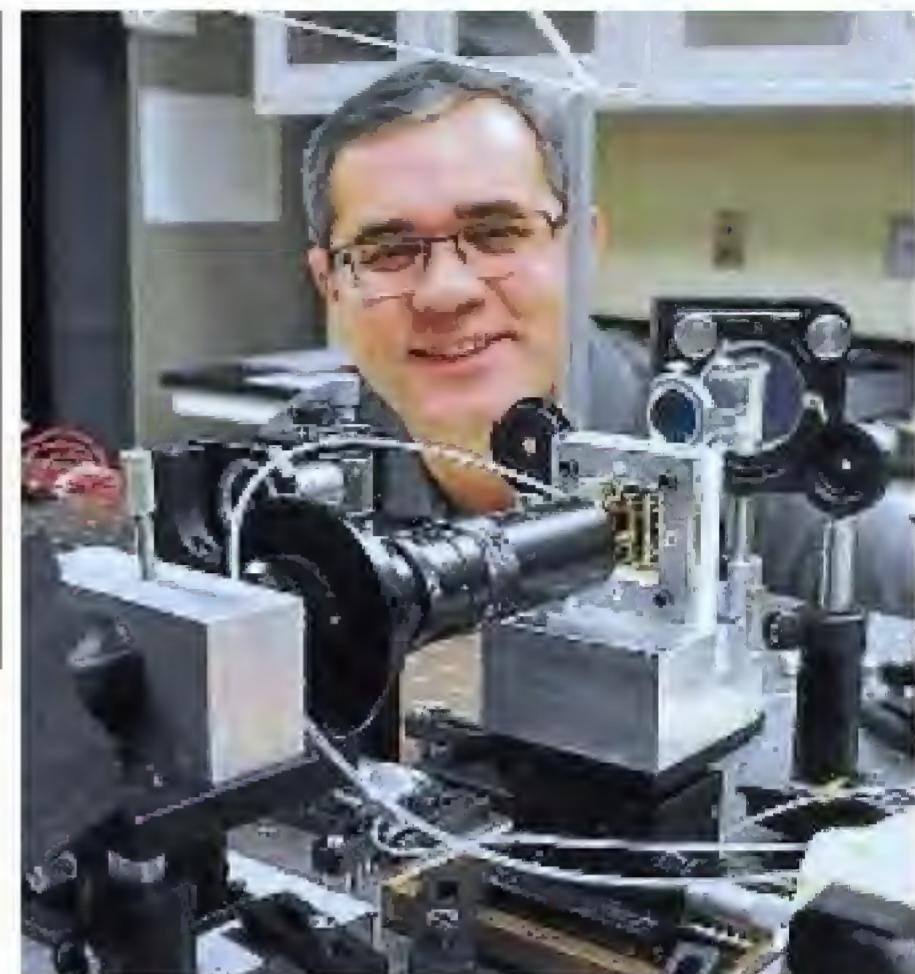
A single medium-sized planter can yield 20 pounds of nutritious, filling potatoes from just

five seeds.

Thank goodness, because the average Ottawa soup kitchen uses about 120 pounds a day. Gauthier said. As the potatoes grow, residents can store them unwashed until Sept. 17, when the veterans charity hopes to haul in 40,000 pounds.

"You can just imagine the impact that would have on our community," Gauthier said.

For complete planting instructions, visit justfood.ca/soldiers-helping-soldiers.



University of Victoria chemist Alexandre Brolo wants to contain outbreaks. CONTRIBUTED

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Researcher gets \$50K to battle Zika

INNOVATION

B.C. chemist developing low-cost tools for health workers



Thandi Fletcher
Metro | Vancouver

As a child growing up in Brazil, Alexandre Brolo remembers seeing dengue fever outbreaks in his home country.

Every year, he said authorities would struggle to control the mosquito-borne illness, which can cause high fever, rash, and debilitating muscle and joint pain — even severe bleeding and death in severe cases.

"Now Zika came along, which is spread in a similar way," Brolo told Metro. "It's just amazing that the authorities keep doing the same thing each year but the problem is still there."

Now a chemist at the University of Victoria, Brolo has received \$50,000 in funding from Grand Challenges Canada, a federally funded body that supports public health innovations, to develop two new tools aimed at helping in the fight against

the Zika virus.

One of the tools is a low-cost plastic strip coated with nanoparticles that change colours when it comes into contact with infected saliva. Connected to a smartphone, the device uploads the time and geographical location of the infected person to a database, he said.

Brolo said he chose to create a saliva screening tool rather than blood, because blood samples require more technical expertise and can be hazardous.

The saliva tool can be used in the field by workers with minimal training and can upload information in real time, which he said is key to containing outbreaks.

"That's the kind of information that's important for people who are at the frontlines," he said.

Brolo and his colleagues are also developing an app that uses a smartphone camera to detect the presence of mosquito larvae in stagnant water, while also recording the time and location of the photo.

With that information, he said governments can use insecticides to kill mosquitoes in that area before an outbreak begins.

WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

“The surveillance in real time is what government officials need to contain the outbreak.”

Dr. Alexandre Brolo



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Vickers tackles Dublin protester



Canadian Ambassador to Ireland Kevin Vickers, left, wrestles with a protester in Dublin on Thursday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

IRELAND

Canadian hero both lauded and criticized for actions

When Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and his ministers crowded after taking office that "Canada is back" on the world stage, people probably thought more of diplomats like Lester Pearson than Kevin Vickers.

Vickers, the former Commons' sergeant-at-arms celebrated as a hero after an armed attacker was shot and killed inside the Parliament buildings in 2014, was appointed Canada's ambassador to Ireland by way of reward.

On Thursday in Dublin, at a ceremony to honour British soldiers killed putting down the 1916 Easter Rising of Irish nationalists against British occupation, Vickers grappled with a protester in the sort of physical intervention not typically regarded as diplomatic.

The Global Affairs Department said in a statement that Vickers "intercepted a protester who ran up to the podium" during the commemoration at a military cemetery.

However, a video of the incident shows Vickers stepped forward as the protester shouted "This is an insult!" Vickers grabbed the man and hauled him away. The man was then handcuffed and taken away by Irish police and the ambassador returned to his place to observe the ceremony.

It was a sensitive event given the deaths of hundreds of Irish nationalists in 1916, the execution of leaders of the uprising, and the subsequent declaration of martial law by the British and the arrest of thousands of citizens.

While some social media commentators hailed Vickers



Kevin Vickers as sergeant-at-arms in 2014. THE CANADIAN PRESS

as a Canadian superhero, questions were raised about why he attended such a potentially divisive event, and why the ambassador felt it appropriate to engage physically with a lone protester taking public issue with a state event in his own country.

"If he thought he was helping out by removing a protester, that's not his job and that injects him and Canada into a political discussion that the Irish can and should manage for themselves."

Canadian officials had little to say about the ambassador's behaviour.

A spokesperson for Vickers said: "We are not commenting on this incident."

Austin Jean, a spokesman for the Global Affairs Department in Ottawa, reiterated to the Star later Thursday that Vickers would not be available for interviews. Global Affairs said earlier that Vickers was present at the ceremony as a guest of Ireland's foreign affairs minister.

Vickers, 59, had no back-

I don't think this will be an action that will be looked on fondly by the Canadian foreign policy professionals. John English

David Mulroney, a former Canadian ambassador to China who is now a senior fellow at the Munk School of Global Affairs, warned against a rush to judgment.

If Vickers considered the man a legitimate safety threat, then acting on his police training was probably instinctive and justified, Mulroney said.

"The other side of it is — and this you do get instructions on — you're there to represent the government and people of Canada and you are to stay out of domestic politics," he said.

"In this case, if he was objecting — not because he thought this was endangering people, but because he thought it was inappropriate for the event — then you are crossing into local politics. That's something for the Irish to work out. You're not there as an honorary member of the Garda (the Irish police)."

ground in international diplomacy prior to his appointment. He served 29 years as an RCMP officer before becoming the Commons's sergeant-at-arms.

On Oct. 22, 2014, lone gunman Michael Zehaf-Bibeau — who had minutes earlier shot honorary guard Cpl. Nathan Cirillo to death at the National War Memorial — was killed in a fusillade fired by security personnel on Parliament Hill, including Vickers.

"I don't think this will be an action that will be looked on fondly by the Canadian foreign policy professionals," John English, director of the University of Toronto's Bill Graham Centre, told the Star.

"The rules governing diplomacy are fairly clear," English said. "You're not supposed to involve yourself in domestic politics ... you're not supposed to be a loose cannon."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

JAPAN

Justin Trudeau touts trade to G7 leaders

Justin Trudeau talked up trade and warned of creeping protectionism Thursday as he met powerful world leaders in a G7 setting for the first time.

On the opening day of the G7 summit in Japan, Trudeau also used his audience with the heads of some of the planet's biggest economies to promote Canada's free-trade deal with Europe.

He focused on the Canada-European Union treaty, known as CETA, in a bilateral chat with German Chancellor Angela Merkel.

Trudeau discussed the pact

again in a one-on-one meeting with French President Francois Hollande.

And, in a working session with all the leaders, Trudeau once more touted the merits of international trade.

"When the middle class are anxious about their economic realities in their future, it's easy to get trapped in demagoguery and protectionism," Trudeau told said at the remote Shima resort, which was shielded by barbwire-topped fences, checkpoints and waves of security officers.

We know trade-intensive in-

dustries pay 50 per cent higher wages, so we need to make a case for trade — it's not just about nice political speeches."

Lawrence Herman, a Toronto-based trade lawyer with Herman and Associates, said Trudeau was targeting his remarks at the "darkening clouds on the trade horizon, notably in the U.S." where the presidential candidates from both parties have come down hard against trade deals.

The G7 leaders largely focused their discussions on the global economy as the summit got underway. THE CANADIAN PRESS



PM Justin Trudeau at the G7 conference on Thursday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SUMMIT

PM continues to push against paying ransoms

Justin Trudeau is leading a push at the G7 summit that will likely broaden a previous agreement by the leaders to stop paying ransom for the release of kidnapped citizens, Canada's point person at the meeting said Thursday.

Peter Boehm, Trudeau's personal representative at the G7 summit, told reporters in Japan that there's a growing sense around the table that citizens from these major economies can be in danger

at any time.

They also believe the problem isn't going away, he said.

"And by paying ransom you are just aiding and abetting the terrorists," said Boehm, who's also Canada's deputy minister of international development.

Trudeau, he added, has been trying to encourage his G7 counterparts inside the fortified, seaside summit to strengthen their position on the issue. THE CANADIAN PRESS



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COMMUNISM

China wild for Marx rap

The latest hot topic for Chinese rappers is a bearded 19th century German philosopher who wrote a book called "The Communist Manifesto."

Chinese state media are promoting a new rap song praising Karl Marx, in the latest attempt to leverage popular culture in support of the ruling Communist Party.

Entitled "Marx is a post-90" — China's version of a millennial — the song extols the communist godfather's supposed coolness with lyrics such as, "Life is full of little accidents, then one day I discovered how awesome he was."

"I saw my faith, don't even ask why," it continues. "You are my Venus, my dear Marx."

The website of the party newspaper People's Daily said the song proves how Marx continues to appeal to young people and will "never completely go out of style."

The site said an accompanying video featuring midriff-baring dancers, a DJ and rappers in backward caps and jerseys has "gone viral."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



China is promoting a new rap song praising Karl Marx, with a video to match. SCREENGAB

IN BRIEF

960 dead in attacks on medical facilities

A WHO report said nearly 960 people have been killed worldwide in attacks on medical facilities over two years, the majority of which were deliberate attacks.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Finding Aristotle's tomb

A Greek archeologist says a destroyed structure he discovered may be the tomb of Aristotle, though he concedes he has "no proof but just strong indications."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Delegates in hand, Trump claims he has nomination

U.S. ELECTIONS

Front runner shifts focus to Hillary Clinton

With a triumphant pile of delegates in hand, Republican Donald Trump on Thursday claimed support from "almost everybody" in his party and turned his attention to his likely Democratic presidential opponent, Hillary Clinton, who is still locked in a divisive primary contest.

The New York billionaire

reached the number of delegates needed to clinch the GOP nomination hours earlier, according to the Associated Press count, just before a North Dakota campaign stop. It completed his unlikely rise that has upended the political landscape and set the stage for a bitter fall campaign.

"Here I am watching Hillary fight, and she can't close the deal," he told reporters. "We've had tremendous support from almost everybody."

Trump's good news was tempered by his own continuing campaign problems. Those in-

clude the abrupt departure of his political director and continuing resistance by many Republican leaders to declare their support for his upstart candidacy.

Trump was put over the top in the AP delegate count by a small number of the party's unbound delegates who told the AP they would support him at the national convention in July. Among them was Oklahoma GOP chairwoman Pam Pollard.

"I think he has touched a part of our electorate that doesn't like where our country is," Pollard said. "I have no problem

supporting Mr. Trump."

It takes 1,237 delegates to win the Republican nomination.

Trump has reached 1,239. Of those, 95 are unbound delegates who have endorsed him.

With 303 delegates at stake in five state primaries on June 7, Trump will easily pad his total, avoiding a contested convention in Cleveland.

Trump fought off 16 other Republican contenders in an often ugly primary race.

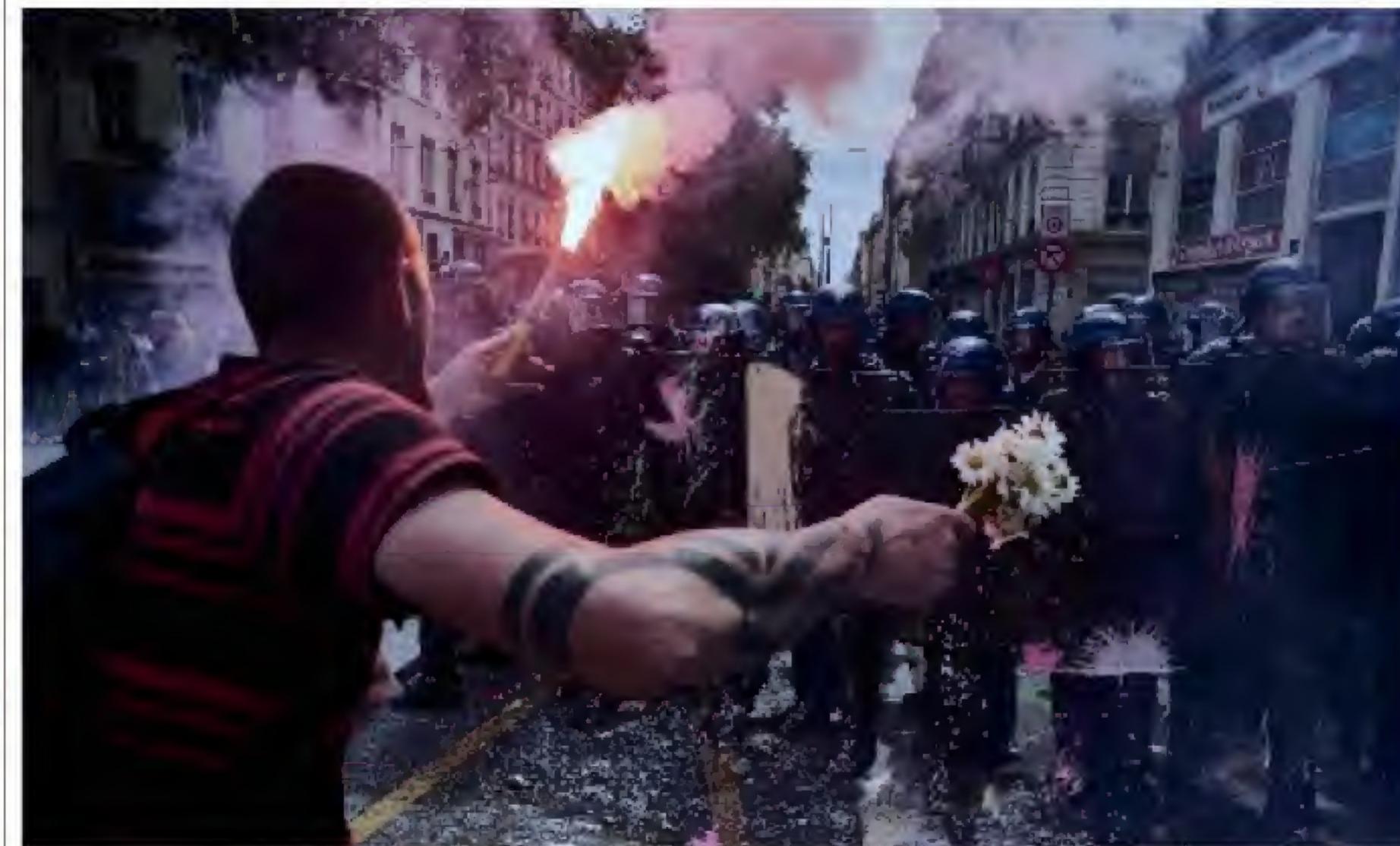
Many on the right have been slow to warm to Trump, wary of his conservative bona fides.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Republican Donald Trump

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



PROTESTS FRANCE IN ERUPTS OVER LABOUR REFORM BILL

A man holds a bouquet of flowers and a torch as he faces riot police during a demonstration against the government's planned labour reform, on Tuesday in Lyon, France.

The reform proposals, which are designed to make it easier for companies to hire and fire, have sparked a series of nationwide protests and strikes. In addition to loosening rules about the 35-hour work week, the bill is said to weaken the power of unions to set working conditions across an entire sector.

Prime Minister Manuel Valls insisted the bill is "good for workers" and small businesses, and argued that many of its critics are ill-informed of its contents.

Masked youth clashed with police in Paris and striking workers blockaded refineries and nuclear power stations.

AFP/GETTY IMAGES

MEDITERRANEAN

More than 4,000 migrants rescued in a single day

More than 4,000 would-be refugees were rescued at sea Thursday in one of the busiest days of the Mediterranean migrant crisis, and at least 20 died trying to reach Europe as Libyan-based smugglers took advantage of calmer seas to send desperate migrants north.

The death toll was likely to grow far higher, however, as the Libyan coast guard also reported two overturned boats between the coastal cities of Sabratha and Zwara. Only four bodies were found, raising fears that the rest of those on board had perished.

One 5-year-old boy got special treatment: He was airlifted from his rescue vessel to the island of Lampedusa, suffering from hypothermia, Nicastro said.

Overall, the Italian coast guard said it had co-ordinated 22 separate rescue operations Thursday that saved more than 4,000 lives.

"That probably is a record," said coast guard spokesman Cmdr. Cosimo Nicastro, noting that previous highs have been in the range of 5,000 to 6,000 over two days.

At least one smugglers' boat

sank off Libya's coast, and 20 bodies were spotted floating in the sea, said Navy Lt. Rino Gentile, a spokesman for the EU's Mediterranean mission.

Photos tweeted by the mission showed a bright blue dinghy submerged under the weight of migrants waving their arms in hope of rescue as an EU aircraft flew overhead.

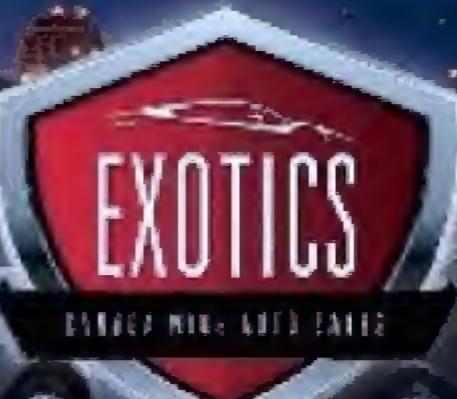
None had a life jacket.

Two Italian coast guard ships and the Spanish frigate *Reina Sofia* responded to the scene. Nicastro said 96 people were rescued.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



A woman holds a baby as she disembarks from an Italian Navy ship. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Airbnb reviews Quebec law

SHARING ECONOMY

Wants divide between big and small operators

Quebec may be the first Canadian jurisdiction to regulate home-sharing services but the new provincial law won't become the only model guiding the evolution of Airbnb, says a senior company executive.

"What works for one community may not work for another," Chip Conley, global head of strategy and hospitality, said in an interview.

"The question I think people have is how is it properly regulated in a way that makes sense for local communities and that may be different in Vancouver than it may be in Toronto."

There are vast differences in approaches, including taxation laws, in the 34,000 cities in which Airbnb currently operates.

Conley said the company has no problem with local regulations that require, for example, guests to pay lodging taxes or



Quebec law won't be the only model regulating home-sharing service, Airbnb says. iSTOCK

that force property owners who rent out units as a full-time business to register with authorities.

"To be regulated is to be accepted," he said.

However, he added that Quebec's law, which came into effect on April 15, needs to make a clearer distinction between

property managers who make hundreds of thousands of dollars and home owners who occasionally rent out their primary residences a few times a year to help pay for vacations.

The Quebec law requires owners who frequently rent out their properties to obtain the same provincial certifi-

cation as hotel and bed-and-breakfast operators, and therefore charge travellers lodging taxes of up to 3.5 per cent.

Since its implementation last month, requests for certification have more than doubled, said the tourism agency responsible for implementing the law.

Violators face fines between

\$500 and \$50,000.

Xavier Gret of the Quebec Hotel Association says he's optimistic the province has found the formula to regulate a problem angering an industry that claims to have lost thousands of room rentals due to the presence of Airbnb in the province.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Canada Goose to open Toronto, New York stores

Canada Goose, the luxury winter jacket maker, will open its first two retail stores this fall — at Toronto's Yorkdale mall and in New York City.

The Toronto-based company says each store will be more than 4,000 square feet and showcase some of its vintage styles and more modern designs. Canada Goose products are currently sold through the company's online store and authorized retailers in Canada and abroad.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Social networks a key source for news: Study

Social networks are an increasingly important news source for many Americans, with Facebook leading the pack, a study showed Thursday. The Pew Research Center survey showed 62 per cent of adults get news on social media, and 18 per cent do so often. That shows a growing role for social media as a news source. AFP

FINANCIAL PLANNING

Helping the kids buy a first home can hit parents' net worth

Helping your children with a downpayment on their first home may be tempting, but financial advisers say to be sure to fully grasp how it will affect your own retirement planning before cutting a cheque.

Kristine Skinner, financial adviser with BlueShore Finan-

cial in West Vancouver, B.C., says before deciding to help, parents need to understand how it will affect their own net worth and overall financial plan.

A survey by the Bank of Montreal earlier this year found that 65 per cent of mil-

lennials said that they would rely, to some extent, on parents or other family members for financial assistance for as much as 10 per cent of the purchase price of their first home.

Skinner says there are several options parents could consider if they want to help their

children buy their first home.

You can give the money to your children as a gift, a plan of action that could require a letter confirming the cash is indeed a gift that they are able to show their potential lenders. Or you could lend them the money, which would also

need to be disclosed, including the repayment requirements.

How you come up with the cash for a gift can vary. If you don't have the cash on hand, you could cash out part of your portfolio or borrow the money.

If generous parents opt to sell stocks or mutual funds to

help their kids come up with the money, they could face a hefty tax bill depending on the amount. If they borrow the money, they won't have that problem, but will be charged interest and need to be sure that they have a plan to pay it back. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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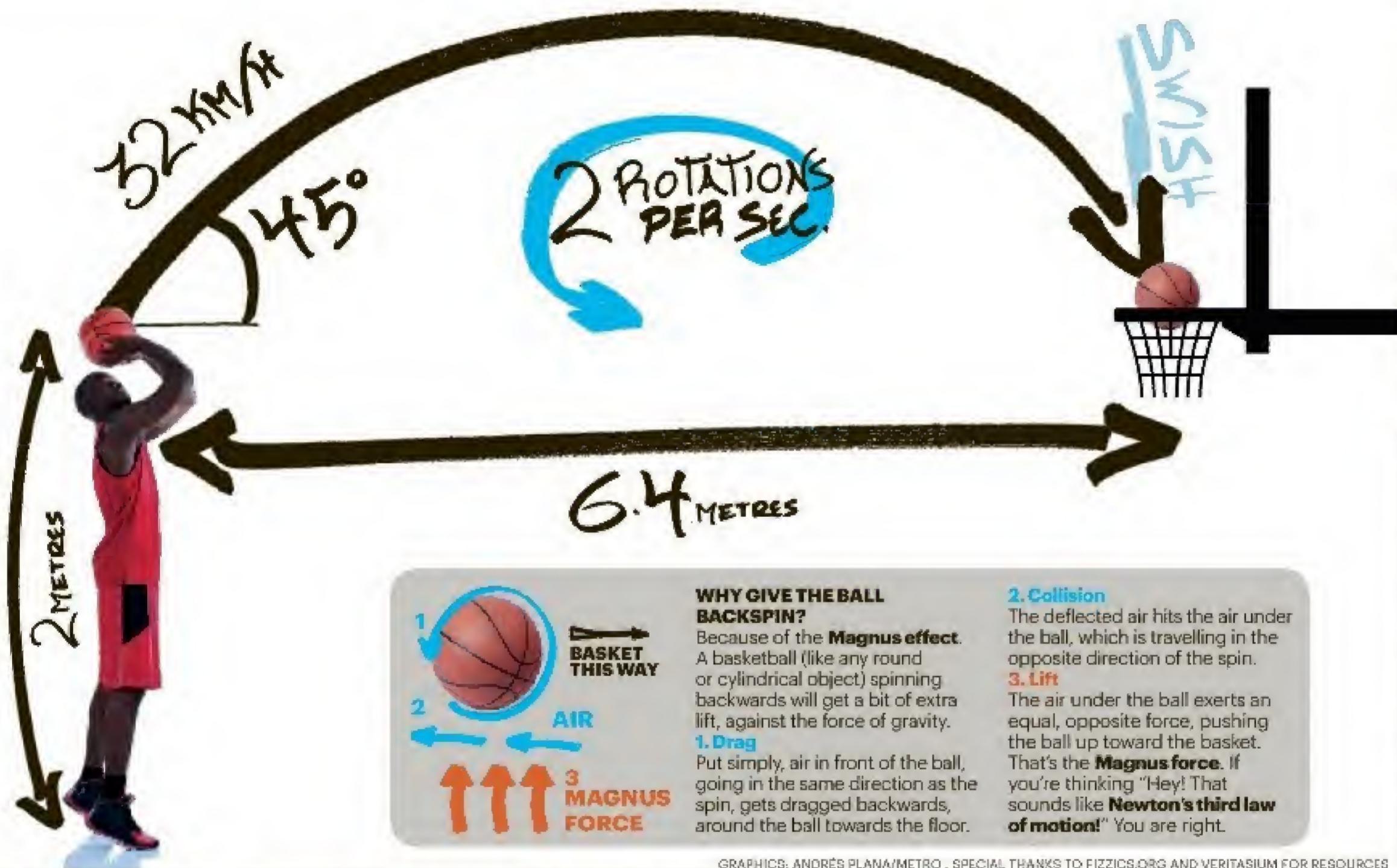


WHAT'S OLD IS BREW Analysis of 5,000-year-old dregs revealed the recipe of the earliest known beer in China. It contained barley, millet and tubers.

DECODED BASKETBALL

LEARN TO SHOOT LIKE DEMAR DEROZAN

Just kidding, we definitely can't teach you that. However, we can explain the **physics behind the optimal three-point shot** — which the 26-year-old Raptor is well on his way to mastering. We consulted some work from Creighton University physics professor Gintaras Duda to learn about the multitude of factors that must come together all at once to create a satisfying 'swish.'



GRAPHICS: ANDRÉS PLANA/METRO, SPECIAL THANKS TO FIZICS.ORG AND VERITASIUM FOR RESOURCES

CITIZEN SCIENTIST by Genna Buck

What if I never eat fruits or vegetables?

A friend of mine refuses to eat fruits or vegetables. He claims supplement pills are just as good. Is this true? Are pills food? — Colin, Toronto

You should hit up some columnist called Citizen Philosopher with questions about the fundamentals of classical logic, like the Law of Identity (which says, I think, "Everything is its own thing, it can't be some other thing too" — i.e. pills aren't food.) While we're on the topic of

things that are not my field of expertise, let's talk psychology. I don't know your friend, nor am I a doctor, but I know severe selective eating can be a sign of an eating disorder. I doubt this person is receptive to advice (the Food Guide clearly didn't sink in), but if you think you'll have any luck, I think you should encourage him to see a doctor.

Now: To the research! The effects of fruit and vegetable consumption on health is not as well-studied as I expected to

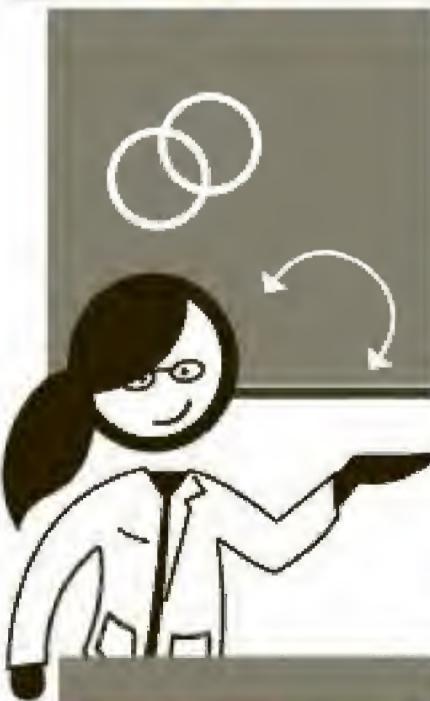
find. But literature reviews show a significantly lower risk of heart disease among people who eat five daily servings of fruits and vegetables, especially green leafy ones. A veggie-rich diet is also associated with lower rates of cancer and type 2 diabetes.

Your friend is only partly wrong. The right supplements can ward off some serious issues like Vitamin C deficiency (scurvy), but he's not getting scores of beneficial phytochemicals. The fibre and water in fruits

and vegetables also help us feel full and regulate food intake. Sure, you can buy fibre from the drugstore, but it's not nearly as delicious as eggplant parmesan or pasta primavera or banana pancakes or everything else he's missing out on.

The lesson here: Science can't solve every problem. Sometimes you just have to hold your nose and eat your spinach.

Science Question?
Tweet @genna_buck



FINDINGS
Your week in science



THE REYNOLDS LAB

NEW SNAKE SPECIES

Talk about precious silver: Harvard researchers have discovered silver boas previously unknown to science in the southern Bahamas. The critically endangered snakes could go extinct before we get much chance to study them, thanks in part to feral cats.

SLEEPING WILLOW

Finnish and Austrian researchers used lasers to observe treetops sagging by up to four inches at night, then bouncing back in the morning. Why? It could be reduced water pressure because there's no photosynthesis at night. Or trees are resting their branches to save energy.

SOUND SMART

NANO BALLS

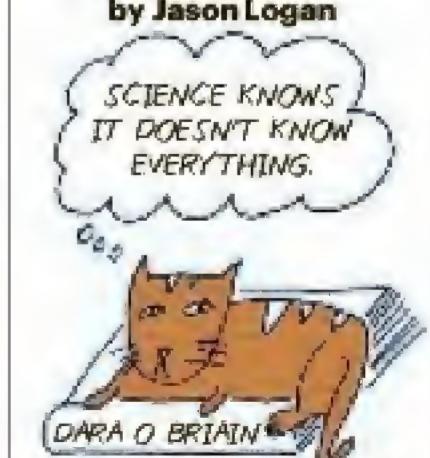
DEFINITION

Nanoballs are round objects, natural or synthetic, small enough to be measured in nanometres (billions of a metre). It was just discovered that English ivy gets its super-sticky, brick-ruining properties from **nanoballs** of sugar-coated proteins.

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"I wish they sold **nanoball** glue at the store. Ralph's Bill Nye poster keeps falling off the wall."

PHILOSOPHER CAT by Jason Logan



DARA O'BRIAN

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Just ask Mia, what Alice said

SEQUEL

Actress returns to Wonderland six years after first Burton film

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada

Alice Through The Looking Glass, the six-years-in-the-making sequel to Tim Burton's Alice in Wonderland, takes place in a world where chess pieces come to life and the Cheshire Cat's grin is as toothy as ever. It's a flight of fantasy, based on a story published by Lewis Carroll in 1871, but grounded by the very human character of Alice Kingsley.

Mia Wasikowska has played Alice since the 2010 film, signing on to the first movie when she was just 18 years old.

"There is always a little bit of trepidation especially when you're dealing with a character who is so iconic and so beloved by so many people and so many generations," she told me on the release of the first film.

"But there is also a certain amount of realism to it because you know you can't please everyone and not everyone is going to be pleased so it is more just making the character your own and feeling comfortable in the decisions you make."

Originally imagined by Carroll in 1865, the little girl who found a world of wonder down the rabbit hole has become one of literature and film's more enduring and malleable characters.

She was the insane character of America McGee's video game Alice and the martial arts instructor of a Syfy channel



Mia Wasikowska reprises her role of Alice in *Alice Through The Looking Glass*. DISNEY

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

X-Men: Apocalypse	★★★	HOW RATING WORKS
Alice Through the Looking Glass	★★	★★★ SEE IT
Mr. Right	★★	★★★ WORTHWHILE
Love & Friendship	★★★	★★ UP TO YOU
		★ SKIP IT

adaptation. In 2010 Wasikowska said she thinks the stories have lasted because people relate to the strange characters and situations.

"I don't believe in normal," she said. "Nobody is normal. Everyone is crazy in his or her

own way. So although these are extreme characters I think that just makes them more identifiable.

People want to see these characters, understand these characters, love these characters, feel comfortable with

these characters because they are like everybody in this world who are kind of crazy. Everyone has felt like an outsider at some time in their life so it is a very identifiable story."

Alice first got the big screen treatment in 1903 in a 12-minute silent version starring Mabel Clark, who was also employed on the set as a "help-out girl," making costumes and running errands.

In 1966 director Jonathan Miller cast Anne-Marie Mallik as the lead in Alice, a mad-as-a-hatter made-for-BBC movie. Miller called Mallik, who auditioned by reciting a poem,

a "rather extraordinary, solemn child."

Not everyone agreed. Peter Cook's biographer described the teenager's take on Alice as "sullen, pouting, pubescent with no sense of bewilderment." Mallik later said she wasn't impressed with her illustrious co-stars — John Gielgud as the Mock Turtle and Peter Sellers as the King of Hearts — because she had grown up surrounded by the very accomplished friends of her "much older" parents.

After production wrapped she "retired" from acting and afterward the BBC had trouble paying her a royalty because they couldn't find her.

It's hard to know what Alice Liddell, the young girl who inspired the character would have thought of any of the wild and wacky versions of the story, but we do know she enjoyed the 1933 Paramount version.

"I am delighted with the film and am now convinced that only through the medium of the talking picture art could this delicious fantasy be faithfully interpreted," she told the New York Times. "Alice is a picture which represents a revolution in cinema history!"

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THE TV DINNER JESSICA ALLEN



I once gave an apple to the director Whit Stillman. We were alone in a hotel room making a web video

he'd like one. He accepted.

That was five years ago. The video footage was lost so you'll just have to trust me when I tell you that while it certainly wasn't love, it could've been the beginning of a friendship—if the PR person hadn't removed me from the room.

Let me start over: We'd just finished filming a 10-minute discussion during a Toronto International Film Festival junket for *Damsels in Distress*, Stillman's first movie in 13 years.

Everyone left the room, save for us two. He paused for what felt like an eternity, his gaze fixed upon my canvas tote bag stuffed with the fruit (it's another story, entirely.) I asked if

Coincidentally, *Love & Friendship* is the title of Stillman's latest film, which opens in select theatres on Friday. It's an adaptation of a little-known novella by Jane Austen called *Lady Susan* that was published posthumously.

Kate Beckinsale plays the title character, a widow and bon vivant, who's searching for a husband for her daughter, and herself.



Chloe Sevigny, who starred alongside Beckinsale in Stillman's *The Last Days of Disco*, is *Lady Susan*'s crafty friend. And yes, there are two potential suitors.

Although it's de rigueur to modify—adding zombies to *Pride and Prejudice*,

for example—and modernize—*Clueless* is a take on *Emma*—Austen's work, Stillman sets his story firmly in the Georgian drawing rooms and countryside estates of the 1790s. And he doesn't consider the source material to be more con-

temporary than her other works.

"That's something that's said a lot now," he recently told the New York Times, "like if you want to sell people on going to see something that's set in the past. They say, 'Oh this has a snarky, modern sensibility.' And I don't want to say that at all, because I rather prefer the 18th century. For me, it's not a good thing to say it's contemporary."

Still, his dry wit and heavy-on-dialogue films featuring characters discussing on decorum, privilege, and class, which have influenced the likes of Wes Anderson and Noah Baumbach, are not dissimilar to Austen's work.

So what took him so long to tackle it? For starters, the 64-year-old director has made only five films in some 25 years. Plus: "My theory in the '90s was that I didn't want to take a Jane Austen book I loved and reduce it to a 90-minute movie," he says. "The Emma Thompson-Ang Lee *Sense and Sensibility* was beautiful, but other ones I didn't think justice was being done."

That *Sense and Sens-*

bility is one of my top five favourite films—and Thompson is responsible for my all-time favourite award speech when she won the Golden Globe for her screenplay at the 1995 ceremony (Google it!) Every time I watch the film, I want to paint our apartment entirely in Wedgwood blue.

On a recent night we settled into our (taupe) living room and debated whether we should watch *Metropolitan*, Stillman's 1990 first feature film about New York socialites, which I have never seen, or *Sense and Sensibility*, again. While Simon appreciates Austen, he can't understand why I'd want to repeatedly re-watch something because time is limited.

He also can't understand why anyone would make a crisp other than apple. But the rhubarb at my green grocer was a brilliant pink and I couldn't resist. We ate it while watching *Sense and Sensibility*, again.

"It's research," I said.

Jessica Allen is the digital correspondent on CTV's *The Social*.

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PREMIERE LOVE & FRIENDSHIP Director Whit Stillman attends a special London screening of his new film with actresses Chloe Sevigny, left, and Kate Beckinsale at Landmark Sunshine Cinema earlier this month. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Chloe Sevigny, left, and Kate Beckinsale star in Whit Stillman's *Love & Friendship*. HANDOUT

Avoiding the pitfalls of another costume drama

DIRECTING

Stillman adds modern touch to Austen story

Steve Gow
For Metro Canada



Acclaimed filmmaker Whit Stillman is finally releasing a follow-up to 2011's *Damsels in Distress* but he's not doing it the easy way.

Instead, the American auteur ventured a Victorian-era costume drama — not exactly stiff competition against summer blockbusters like *Captain America*.

"It's tough to make any film," admitted Stillman recently while promoting *Love & Friendship* — his new adaptation of a little-known Jane Austen story. "(But) it's less tough to make a period film if the source material has some star value — and Jane Austen's a star."

Based on the celebrated English author's epistolary novella *Lady Susan*, Stillman assumed producing the film

"would be a slam dunk."

However Austen's comedy about a conniving 18th Century widow attempting to keep her social standing by seducing a naive wealthy bachelor proved a challenge.

"The person who distributes the film in the U.K. initially hated the script because the characters were so unlikeable and vicious," recalled Stillman with a laugh.

"I find very manipulative women characters funny. Sometimes women I meet in real life, I think they're really funny and it turns out they're just dominant and manipulative."

Stillman's body of work

(which includes his Oscar-nominated 1990 debut *Metro*-*politan*) proves he's also a proponent of strong, female protagonists.

Yet, the director insists he's not really a fan of earlier Austen adaptations.

"If they aren't working on all cylinders I just don't want to see them," said Stillman, noting he spent a decade crafting his version of *Lady Susan*.

"This is different. This is kind of a fun film and I think it escapes the respectful adaptation trap."

One of the keys to avoiding that pitfall was casting Kate Beckinsale alongside indie

darling Chloe Sevigny as a scheming accomplice.

While the pair previously teamed-up with Stillman on *The Last Days of Disco*, the nearly two-decades that have passed since that acclaimed comedy clearly hasn't affected the duo's on-screen chemistry.

"They were practically teenagers when they did *The Last Days of Disco* (and) they became big buddies in that and now they're super professional," said Stillman of his disparate cast.

"They come at (acting) from completely different techniques but it just works together."



FILMMAKER WHIT STILLMAN ON...

...putting himself in her shoes

"I do like women characters because it's not myself; it's not autobiographical," said Stillman of his penchant for female protagonists. "You have to find the common humanity that you find humorous and entertaining."

...the older audience

"It used to be that films were made for teens all the time because teens were going out to the movies tons," said Stillman. "Teens are not going to the movies that much so the older audience is (more) important for independent films."

...living with Austen for a decade

"My daughters, when they saw the film they said, 'dad, you put some of your lines you say all the time in the movie,'" laughed Stillman of his long-awaited adaptation. "(But) actually I had ten years of quoting the Jane Austen lines to my daughters."

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What's next for J-Law after X-Men: Apocalypse?

THE FUTURE

A peek at the future projects of Hollywood's best-paid actress

After Jennifer Lawrence peels off Mystique's blue skin for the last time with the release of Bryan Singer's trilogy-closing X-Men: Apocalypse this weekend, fans must be wondering what's next for the actress.

Here are the 25-year-old actress's upcoming film projects.

Passengers

J-Law will be seen next starring opposite Chris Pratt in big-budget romance Passengers.

Set on board a space ship en route to a distant colony planet, Pratt and Lawrence are among the thousands of interstellar pioneers sedated in sleep chambers for the 120-year voyage when something wakes them up.

Lawrence plays a New York writer and Pratt is a mechanic.

Details are few but we know the actress was very chatty about the awkwardness of filming a steamy love scene with the married Pratt.

Some scenes were shown to an audience at CinemaCon 2016, which reacted enthusiastically.

The movie opens in December.

Darren Aronofsky project

This one is a mystery. The Telegraph reports Lawrence is in rehearsals with director Darren Aronofsky on his untitled drama, which is also rumoured to star Javier Bardem and Michelle Pfeiffer.

Variety had a hint of a plot for the film, due out next year, saying it's about "a couple whose relationship is tested when uninvited guests arrive at their home, disrupting their tranquil existence."

We may not know much, but we do know Aronofsky makes movies that push actresses to expand their craft, like Natalie Portman in psychological thriller Black Swan and Marisa Tomei as



When Jennifer Lawrence peels off the blue skin of Mystique, she'll be diving into some new projects with Darren Aronofsky and Steven Spielberg. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

stripper Cassidy in 2008 drama The Wrestler.

It's What I Do

There were several reports last year that war photojournalist Lynsey Addario's 2015 memoir It's What I Do: A Photographer's Life Of Love And War will get the big screen treatment, with Steven Spielberg directing and

Lawrence to star. Time reported in 2015 there was a bidding war for the movie rights, with Warner Bros. emerging victorious.

No updates since then and considering Spielberg is already in pre-production on sci-fi thriller Ready Player One and drama The Kidnapping of Edgardo Mortara, this could take a while.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

X-MEN APOCALYPSE

Your three-minute who's who catchup

The new generation of X-Men actors are now well and truly established with the arrival of X-Men: Apocalypse, the third film exploring the team's origins. In the latest movie, a historic rift emerges among the supernutants thanks to powerful and divisive newcomer Apocalypse. Find out who's in it, what the early verdict is, and where the trailers are at with our quick three-minute catch-up.

Who's in it?

James McAvoy returns as mutant school founder and mindreader Professor Xavier, as do protégés in Mystique (Jennifer Lawrence), Beast (Nicholas Hoult), Havok (Lucas Till), and Quicksilver (Evan Peters), while among those new to the school are Cyclops (Tye Sheridan, Last Days in the Desert), Jubilee (Lana Condor), Storm (Alexandra Shipp, Straight Outta Compton) and Jean Grey (Sophie Turner, Game of Thrones).

Opposing them is Apocalypse (Oscar Isaac of Star Wars: The Force Awakens) who sets about recruiting Quicksilver's

estranged father Magneto (Michael Fassbender) and newcomers Nightcrawler (Kodi Smit-McPhee, The Rover), Angel (Ben Hardy, UK TV's EastEnders), and Psylocke (Olivia Munn) to his world-destroying cause.

Who's behind it?

Bryan Singer's back for his fourth film in the X-Men franchise, after the original X-Men and X-Men 2, and 2014's passing of the baton, X-Men: Days of Future Past. He directed from a screenplay by Simon Kinberg, who shared an Oscar nomination for The Martian.

Is it any good?

Following a world premiere in London on May 9, X-Men: Apocalypse has accrued an IMDb rating of 8.3/10 from just north of 1,200 user scores (as of May 13). Movie critics' reviews dropped around the same time but were a little less enthused, with Metacritic giving a 51 per cent average score and Rotten Tomatoes turning up a 57 per cent approval rating from an average 5.7/10 score. AFP



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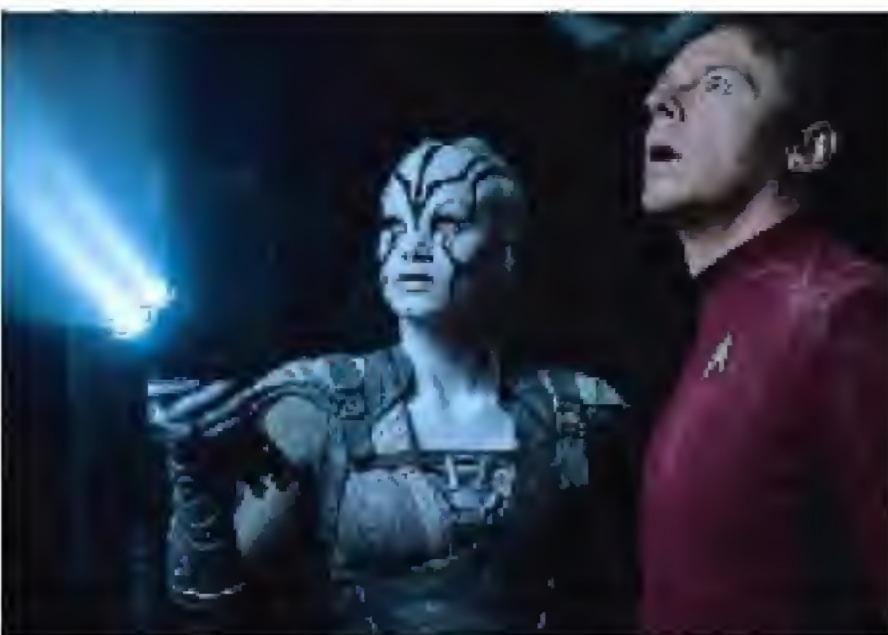


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Star Trek Beyond is more 'fun' than previous episodes in part thanks to comedic actor Simon Pegg (above). CONTRIBUTED

Star Trek ... and Beyond

NEW TRILOGY

Stars reflect on legacy in lead up to 50th anniversary

It launched with a mission of just five years "to boldly go where no man has gone before" but half a century later Star Trek is a multi-billion-dollar cultural phenomenon adored by fans the world over.

When the show debuted in 1966 the concept was a three-season television show following the crew of the starship Enterprise as they ventured into the galaxy to seek out new civilizations.

Little did NBC know it would snowball into a touchstone in entertainment spawning six shows with a combined 725 episodes and 13 movies, and turning its stars into household names.

"To be talking about the 50th anniversary is insane. I was born the same year that Star Trek was," veteran filmmaker JJ Abrams, the creative force behind the new "rebooted" trilogy, told a convention in Hollywood last week.

"I know how old I feel, so the idea that this thing endures is incredible."

Korean-American actor John Cho, who plays Starfleet Officer Hikaru Sulu in the rebooted trilogy — including the upcoming 50th anniversary film Star Trek Beyond — describes multiculturalism as one of its "defining features."

"I really believe theoretically in Star Trek movies. It's a good cultural product, in my opinion. I

To be talking about the 50th anniversary is insane. I was born the same year that Star Trek was

Filmmaker J.J. Abrams

15 YEARS LATER

Furious gets re-release for anniversary

The Fast and the Furious is speeding back into theatres this summer in celebration of the 15th anniversary of the film that launched the improbable \$3.9 billion franchise. Tickets are now on sale for the nationwide June 22 re-release.

The 2001 film about East Los Angeles street racers starring Vin Diesel, Michelle Rodriguez and the late Paul Walker was a big box office success, earning over \$200 million worldwide,

but no one at the time could have imagined its potential longevity. In the years and films since, the franchise has only grown in profitability and audience goodwill.

The most recent, Furious 7, earned over \$1.5 billion globally in 2015.

The eighth film is in production for a 2017 release, with 9 and 10 scheduled through 2021.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Paul Walker, Vin Diesel and Michelle Rodriguez at the premiere of *The Fast and The Furious* in 2001. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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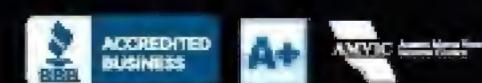
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Hopkins dresses up for television role

FEATURE

'I wasn't cut out to be an actor,' Oscar winner says

He's a much-lauded Academy Award-winning performer and his Hannibal Lecter is one of the all-time great movie

villains.

But as he reflects on playing a fading stage star in TV movie *The Dresser*, Anthony Hopkins says: "I wasn't cut out to be an actor."

"I wanted to be a musician, but I drifted into this business by mistake," Hopkins told The Associated Press. "I'm still looking over my shoulder thinking somebody will say, 'Sorry, Tony, you're in the

wrong business."

The business has no such doubts. Hopkins gained Oscar nominations for playing the eponymous president in *Nixon*, John Quincy Adams in slavery drama *Amistad* and the loyal butler Stevens in *The Remains of the Day*.

He won a best-actor Oscar in 1991 for cannibalistic serial killer Lecter in *The Silence of the Lambs*.

In *The Dresser* — airing Monday in the U.S. on Starz — the 78-year-old Welsh actor plays Sir, a cranky, creaky old thespian mounting a threadbare wartime production of *King Lear* and battling the infirmities of age.

Ian McKellen co-stars as Norman, his devoted dresser, in a juicy display of skill by two British acting aristocrats (both men have been knighted

by Queen Elizabeth II).

Adapted from Ronald Harwood's play, *The Dresser* is a bittersweet ode to the theatre, with its feuds, camaraderie and magical stage transformations.

Hopkins has no such fond memories of his own early experiences in the fabled National Theatre company of Laurence Olivier.

"I found it absolute purgatory," he said. "All those endless tours as a walk-on, running on in wrinkled tights to Olivier's Othello."

"I'm not a good team player. I'm a bit wild and a bit crazy. I just want to break out and do something else, and I just couldn't take the routine of it. Wet Wednesday afternoons in the Waterloo Road — I just thought, God, what a depressing life."

Hopkins focused on movie roles after getting his screen break playing Richard the Lionheart in *The Lion in Winter* in 1968.

He infamously walked out of a 1973 stage production of *Macbeth* in mid-run, and has not performed for the theatre in almost 30 years. One of his last stage roles was a 1986 National Theatre production of *King Lear*.

He says it was not a great success — he was "too young, too confused and too unsettled" to play Shakespeare's fallen king.

"I just wanted to get the hell out of the theatre," he said. "It was nobody's fault —

David Hare did a fine production, but I just wasn't up to it."

Producer Colin Callender said the TV movie started as an attempt to lure Hopkins back onto the stage in a revival of *The Dresser*. Callender flew to meet Hopkins in Los Angeles, and "as I sat down he said, 'I'm never going to do this on stage. But I will do it for television.'"

Hopkins said filming *The Dresser* — shot at Ealing Studios and London's grand old Hackney Empire theatre — was "the best time" he's had as an actor.

"The play is so well-written, and Ronald Harwood addresses the very make-up of the actor," he said. "And I thought, 'Yeah, I know this guy.' I knew exactly how to play the man. Because I've been that. I am that."

Hopkins gets to perform chunks of *King Lear* in *The Dresser*, and the experience has emboldened him to tackle Shakespeare's tragedy again.

He will play the king in a television version of the play, made by Callender's company for the BBC.

And it has made him rethink his aversion to the stage.

"Ian's trying to get me to go back to the stage, but I don't think I've got the courage to do it," he said.

"I don't think so. I'm not sure. It's something I just let waft around in my head. Maybe one day."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



British actors Sir Ian McKellen (left) and Sir Anthony Hopkins (right) perform in TV drama *The Dresser*. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

“I’m not a good team player. I’m a bit wild and a bit crazy. I just want to break out and do something else.”

Sir Anthony Hopkins

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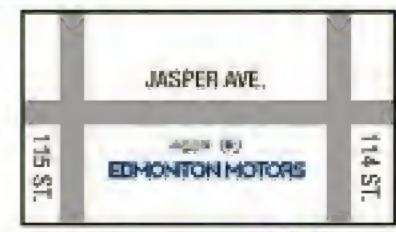
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Private Eyes gives 'er with Canadiana



Jason Priestly and Cindy Sampson star in *Private Eyes* on Global. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

DETECTIVE DRAMA

Toronto-based show oozes hockey, Roots and CN Tower

Shelley Eriksen and Alan McCullough, executive producers of the new Global TV detective show *Private Eyes*, say they are selling Toronto to the world for "the awesome city it is."

"We're the fourth largest city in North America and one of the most diverse on the planet. We want to embrace everything about it, there's no need for apologies," says Eriksen.

Hockey

Priestley's character is an ex-hockey player. And in the first episode there is former Toronto Maple Leaf Doug Gilmour. "It was great, I've known Doug for a long time and we were lucky enough to find a hole in his schedule to spend a couple hours with us. We had a great time," Priestley says.

CN Tower

"It's definitely in the show and it's in the show all the time. Actually, right from the start. I can't tell you how nice it is to shoot in Toronto and not have to shoot around it."

Canadianisms

"There are lots of Canadian phrases.... One of my favourites that we use is 'Just give 'er!' It means like you're going to try something, give it maximum effort. That's classic."

Canuck Fashion

"I've worn Roots stuff already on the show; I'm in this leather jacket. And I'm sure if there was a winter scene they'll put me in Canada Goose. So far no Joe Fresh underwear. Does Joe Fresh make underwear?"

Poutine and Barenaked Ladies

"Oh yeah. Poutine. We haven't shot a scene yet. But it has to make an appearance. And the Barenaked Ladies haven't been on the show yet. But never say never. Maybe we can have the Barenaked Ladies eating poutine."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



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Meet your contenders for Song of the Summer

The sun is out, patio chairs are beckoning, and those gross little swarms of bugs are everywhere — we must be nearing summer. And as the season approaches, it's time to wonder what song will be blaring from convertibles, thundering in clubs and triumphantly soundtracking all that ill-advised day-drinking. Here are just a few contenders for the throne.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Desiigner, "Panda"

The dismissive comparisons of Desiigner to established hip-hop artist Future were history as soon as the 19-year-old Brooklyn rapper's single — his first — went to No. 1.

It's more than just a meme author's dream, but the irrepressibly hypnotic banger is less "breezy patio spritz" and more "humidity-induced hallucination."

Heat check: Is it hot, or do we just have a fever?



Mike Posner, "I Took a Pill in Ibiza" (SeeB remix)

True to its title, this sprightly neon dance tune is truly a global phenomenon that has been burning up charts all around the world (including, yes, Spain). But it came out last July, so even though it has only recently bubbled to the top, it can't help but feel a bit warmed over.

Heat check: A bit too slow to come to a boil.

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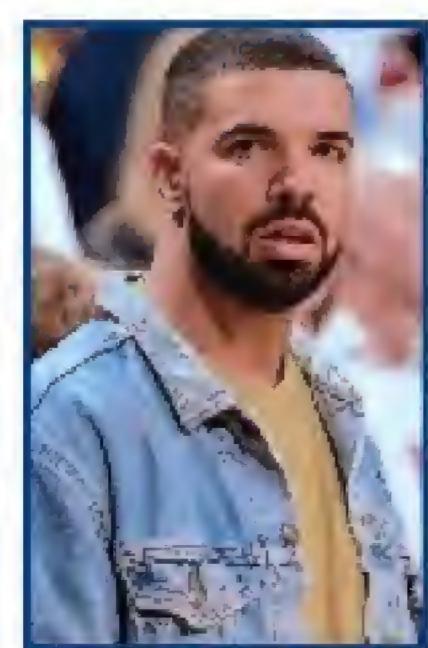
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Drake, "One Dance" (feat. Kyla and Wizkid)

It isn't so much that this song is of summer — this song is summer: relaxed, radiant, and over too soon. It's hard to imagine what could send the temperature soaring as high as The 6 God's first No. 1 ringing out. And for so long we thought Aubrey was more of an autumn.

Heat check: This one is just about "Hotline" hot.



Fifth Harmony, "Work From Home" (feat. Ty Dolla \$ign)

This ode to blowing off the office has a beach-ball buoyant beat, a killer video (from Toronto's Director X) and enough sass to last until Labour Day. It's about to top the Billboard pop chart — the first song by a girl group to do so in almost a decade — but hasn't risen past the fifth spot on the Hot 100.

Heat check: It's definitely steamy, but it isn't scalding.



Justin Timberlake, "Can't Stop The Feeling!"

This song is so pepper it could co-host a morning show. You can't deny its ebullience or sensation status — it's Timberlake's third career No. 1 — but we can't shake the feeling this was reverse-engineered for the Song of the Summer crown and that's just not cool.

Heat check: As hot as Troll dolls in the '90s, and just as prone to burnout.



The dark horses

Adele generally seems to record music more for winter and its discontent, but there's no denying the airy snap of new single "Send My Love (To Your New Lover)." Meanwhile, our affair with Ariana Grande's frothy newest "Into You" is definitely more than just a summer fling.

And though none of its tracks will achieve the pop ubiquity necessary to define a season, Chance the Rapper's Coloring Book is a S.A.D. light in mixtape form that deserves to sing out at a summer sky whenever possible.



Dierks Bentley poses for a portrait in Nashville, Tenn., to promote his latest album, Black, which comes out Friday.

AP/MARK HUMPHREY

Dierks Bentley goes pitch black on his latest album

INTERVIEW

New country record tells a darker tale of love, heartache

Country star Dierks Bentley may be known for his boozy party songs like Drunk On a Plane or 5-1-5-0, but as a singer, he loves going dark.

He's even named his new album Black.

"Sad country music is way better than happy country music," the Grammy-nominated Bentley said.

"Happy country music is good for the live show. It's good for driving your car to work. The greatest country music is the sad stuff. That's where you learn stuff. That's how you get through stuff."

The 40-year-old singer named the album, out on Friday, after his wife Cassidy's maiden name, which he loved so much he tried

to convince her to keep it.

"When we got married, I was like, 'You should just keep the name Cassidy Black, it's so cool,'" said Bentley, who often takes the stage in a plain black T-shirt. "I'll change my name to Dierks Black. I just like the colour black."

The title track is one of Bentley's sexiest songs of his career, a sultry bedroom ballad that allowed him to frame the entire album around the story lines of love, loss and heartache.

He explores the self-doubt that comes while watching someone slip out of a relationship on Why Do I Feel and cheating lovers meeting in secret on a duet with

Maren Morris on I'll Be the Moon.

But Bentley also has learned from previous albums that fans, and radio stations, still want the fun Dierks, too. His first single, the summery Somewhere on a Beach, hit No. 1 on Billboard's Hot country chart, and his next single, Different for Girls, features pop-rocker Elle King.

"I just hit it off with her right away," Bentley said of the Ex's and Oh's singer. "She's just really self-deprecating and funny, but a great singer."

More than a decade into his career, Bentley, who recently hosted the Academy of Country Music Awards with Luke Bryan, is adept

The greatest country music is the sad stuff. That's where you learn stuff. That's how you get through stuff.

Country star Dierks Bentley

at finding the balance on albums now. He is the country joker, the bluegrass picker, the love song singer and the stadium rocker all packaged together.

"If people want to go buy a single and go party to it, that's great," Bentley said. "I am trying to make a record for me as much as I am trying to make a record for my fans."

So he has no regrets about ending the album on a sad note, an acoustic guitar ballad called Can't Be Replaced, in which he sings about his aging 15-year-old dog Jake, who has been with him since before he had a wife and kids and became a star.

"The very first song I ever put out to country radio, What Was I Thinking, had a picture of Jake on the cover and had a big dobro solo in that song," Bentley said. "So it's kinda like the perfect bookend to the last eight records and really to his life."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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ORGANICS AND FARMERS' MARKETS

Old Strathcona Farmers' Market is still booming after 30 years

In 1983, the Old Strathcona Farmers' Market was born on the corner of 83rd Avenue and 103rd Street with just a handful of outdoor vendors. More than 30 years later, Old Strathcona Farmers' Market is Edmonton's biggest, year-round, indoor market — every Saturday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

A visit to the market means you can meet the makers who grow and craft their products with their own hands. Old Strathcona Farmers' Market features over 130 vendors every week, selling locally grown produce, specialty foods and handmade arts and crafts — everything is made personally by the vendor selling it.

As a certified, Alberta-approved farmers' market, Old Strathcona is affiliated with a chain of high quality markets offering Alberta-produced products you can trust.

The market's Executive Director, Stephanie Szakacs-St. Louis, says there are so many great reasons to shop local.

"Farmers' markets give customers an opportunity to access the freshest foods at the height of their season, discover the newest culinary trends and check out the most unique handcrafted items around."



CONTRIBUTED

For over three decades, the Old Strathcona Farmers' Market has been part of the Edmonton and Whyte Avenue tradition. Customers love the community atmosphere, the healthy food choices and the true Edmonton experience.

The market offers free parking for customers in their lot across Gateway Boulevard. For more information, visit osfm.ca.

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Old STRATHCONA FARMERS' MARKET

Diva Q closes lid on grilling stereotypes

INTERVIEW

Barbecue buff gets real about the craft and its culture

Danielle Bennett describes herself as "a barbecue woman through and through," but she's had to work tirelessly over a decade to gain credibility in an arena dominated by men.

She says she has won close to 400 barbecue awards — nationally and internationally — hosted the TV show BBQ Crawl for three years and has taken countless courses and apprenticeships. She travels tirelessly in search of barbecue — last year alone she took more than 50 flights and drove her truck more than 120,000 kilometres.

"It's been really hard to garnish that respect and integrity," says Bennett, who also goes by Diva Q. "Some people understood right away that I wasn't a joke ... (but also) I got dismissed a lot. Still to this day I do. I look at people and go, 'Really? After all these years?' It's 10 years now. I'm not new."

But when it comes right down to it, she loves feeding people, especially family and friends, and has compiled her favourite recipes into a new



Diva Q Danielle Bennett poses while cooking her Filipino style stuffed pork belly, a recipe in her cookbook *Diva Q's Barbecue*, May 18. THE CANADIAN PRESS

cookbook, *Diva Q's Barbecue: 195 Recipes for Cooking with Family, Friends & Fire* (Appetite by Random House).

She includes tips on tools, rubs and sauces, choosing a grill, preparing it for direct and indirect heat, and using wood chips and cedar planks.

"It's a reference book you can go back to time and time again and not some flaky little book from some chick that does barbecue," says Bennett, who names Texas brisket and Asian influences among her favourites.

"There are tried-and-true recipes for Sunday suppers, weekend warrior programs, during the week. It really goes the whole range from south-

ern classics — some recipes for biscuits because I love biscuits — to desserts to lots of fish and seafood dishes; especially in Canada we have lots of incredible seafood."

Along with recipes for salads and vegetarian dishes, an unusual item is a roast chicken stood up on a carved pineapple instead of the classic beer can, lending juicy flavour and moisture, Bennett says, without wasting "a perfectly drinkable beer."

Then there's meat cake, in which two layers composed of a beef, sausage and bacon mixture topped with cheese are layered between mashed potatoes. "I have already had people message me saying they want to try it for special occasions like Valentine's Day or their birthdays or mini meat loaf versions of it, like cupcakes," says Bennett.

When judging barbecue for charity events, taste, tenderness and appearance are key, she says.

"Appearance is one of those things where you're looking for things like that nice rich developed bark, the deep red mahogany colour that most

barbecue has. Tenderness is pretty subjective, but basically ribs should not fall off the bone. You should be able to get a nice clean bite out of them. They should be tender, but ... if they're falling off the bone it means they're overcooked."

For taste, ultimately the bite needs to have a balance of salt, savoury, sweet and smoke.

"One of the things that people do often when they're first starting out is if they're using wood chips or wood chunks they oversmoke their foods. I don't want to bite into a log of wood. I want the wood to just hug my food and give it a little kiss, but I don't want it to slap me upside the head."

In her cookbook, she lists the grills she loves to use, and is quick to point out she did not take a single dime for any of the recommendations. Bennett also includes tips on winter grilling.

"A lot of my videos are done in the snow because I really believe that you should grill, barbecue 365 days a year. There is no such thing in my world as a barbecue season. It's every day of the year."

"Canada embraces that probably better than any other country in the world."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

RECIPE

Sizzling and sweet pineapple chicken



Beer-can chicken with pineapple. HANDOUT

Beer-can chicken is a waste of perfectly drinkable beer, says Bennett.

Her version, which stands the chicken on a carved fresh pineapple, adds just as much juiciness plus some tropical flavour.

Pineapple stand chicken

Prep time: 30 minutes

Cook time: 40 to 50 minutes.

Rest time: 20 minutes.

Ingredients:

- One pineapple, large
- Whole chicken, 3 to 4 lbs.
- 50 mL (1/4 cup) pork and chicken rub
- Fresh pineapple salsa

For the salsa:

- Half a fresh pineapple, peeled, cored and chopped (use the pieces of pineapple chopped away from stand).
- 125 mL red onion, finely chopped
- 50 mL fresh cilantro, chopped
- 5 mL (1 tsp) kosher salt

Directions:

- Trim the top of the pineapple. Cut a slice from the bottom of the pineapple so it stands level on a flat surface.
- With pineapple upright on a cutting board, peel the fruit and remove any eyes.
- Cut vertical slices from

the pineapple around the core, stopping 5 cm (2 inches) from the base.

This will be the "stand" for the chicken. Set aside the slices.

- Prepare grill for indirect cooking and preheat to 140 C (275 F).

- Season chicken inside and out with rub. Invert onto the pineapple stand.

- Place the chicken on the stand on cool side of grill and grill for 20 minutes.

- Rotate the chicken and continue to grill until internal temperature of breast reaches 74 C (165 F) and thigh reaches 80 C (175 F), approximately 20 to 30 minutes.

- While the chicken finishes, in a medium serving bowl, mix set aside pineapple, red onion, cilantro and salt. Set aside for 10 minutes before serving to allow flavours to develop.

- Remove chicken from grill and remove pineapple stand.

- Tent chicken loosely with foil and let rest for 10 minutes before serving with salsa.

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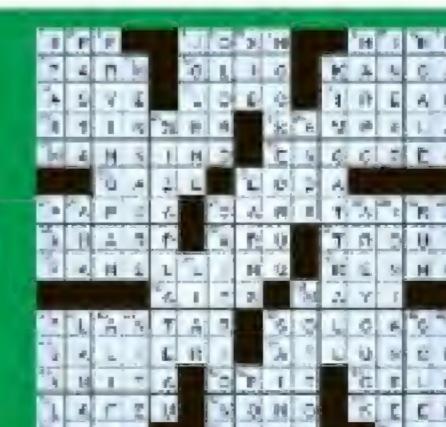
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Your essential daily news

The great road trip is expected to return this summer thanks to cheaper gas



Lonesome highway



Today's youth prefer cycling adventures and prepackaged tours to "road begging," as it was once called. Inset: Rita Daly, 18, left, and Barb Sneyd, 18, hitchhiking outside Moose Jaw. MAIN PHOTO ISTOCK; INSET CONTRIBUTED

Back in the 1970s hundreds of thousands of young people around the world hitchhiked as a rite of passage. Today, few venture onto the highway with their thumbs out. A writer looks back on the travels of her youth as she sets out on a road trip of a very different kind. **RITA DALY** FOR TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

There was no awe-inspiring moment of, "Hey, why don't we hitchhike out west this summer?" At least, not that I recall.

It was just the thing to do back then, when thousands of youth — actually hundreds of thousands — took to the highways and back-roads to travel across Canada, the United States and Europe by sticking out their thumbs.

It was 1972. School was out, rock 'n' roll was in, when three fresh-faced girls with long hair, faded jeans and backpacks joined this historic movement and set off to see a world beyond the borders of Toronto with just a bit of cash stuffed in our pockets and a naive sense that all would work out in the end.

It did of course. Our parents, thankfully, were none the wiser. Was it luck that nothing bad happened during the course of

that, and subsequent, hitchhiking adventures? Or, were they really safer times than today?

Once, on a Hwy. 401 trek to Windsor, I recall being picked up by a man with a prosthetic hand on the wheel and a handgun on the seat. When he made a stop in London, we bolted.

Another time, thumbing around England and Scotland, a group of sketchy long-haired weirdos picked us up in a van outside Salisbury. They kept staring at us, like we were the freaks. We bailed in Dorchester.

Still, these memories remind me of those carefree days when hitchhiking was considered more a rite of passage than a mode of transportation. Which brings me to the present.

My husband and I sold our house in Toronto, bought one on Vancouver Island and shipped our life westward. He flew out

with the cat, and I, opting to drive, found myself on the same Trans-Canada route ventured more than four decades ago.

This time I was accompanied by a girlfriend with the comforts of modern-day road travel — a skinny latte, iTunes and a browser that booked nightly hotel rooms in upcoming towns.

It made me wonder though, how many young people are hitching the highways today? Not many, I guessed, and guessed right.

During our week on the road, travelling some 4,000 kilometres from Toronto to Vancouver, we

passed only five groups, or a total of 10 people, thumbing rides — three young girls, with large packs, heading north out of Port Severn, a young man hitching alone outside Thunder Bay, a couple heading west on the outskirts of Winnipeg, two young guys on the outskirts of Moose Jaw holding a cardboard sign that read "Next Town," and a young French-Canadian couple with their dog, Gogol, in Revelstoke heading God-knows-where, because they didn't know.

The numbers were a far cry from the throngs we ran into back in the '70s — camping

out in peach orchards, wheat fields or public parks — when it seemed like everyone was, as Jack Kerouac said, on the road. You never felt alone. By contrast, today's hitchhikers seemed a lonely lot, isolated in their own time warp.

That's what I hastily assumed as we zoomed along, proud that I played my bit part in a huge counterculture experiment that today's hitchhikers lost out on. Of course, young people on the road these days may not necessarily feel that way. I have to assume they are carving out their own unique adventure, just in a different age.

Gabriel René and Caroline Dawson, for instance, are today's consummate version of '70s free-spirited hippies. Both 23 and from Montreal, they have hitched across Canada several

times, thumbed around the east coast, the U.S. and spent six months thumbing around Australia.

They have been on the road this time since January, carrying the usual tent, cooking gear, sleeping bags, guitar, food and clothes. Gogol has her own pack. They have found nothing but friendly rides, interesting people, and the freedom and romance of the road.

"We've had thousands of rides probably and never had any problems with anyone," said René.

As they turned and headed toward the highway, I asked where they were going next. "Not sure, maybe east, maybe the islands," said Dawson, meaning the west coast.

René smiled with a shrug. "Maybe north."

How many young people are hitching the highways today? Not many, I guessed, and guessed right.

Rita Daly, on her road trip this year



Hornby Island: The Hawaii of the north

B.C.

Modest jewel perfect place to spend the summer

Hornby is one of those places you want to tell everyone about and yet at the same time no one.

The Salish Sea island, often referred to as Hawaii of the north, has warm waters and sandy beaches that set it apart from neighbouring islands, with their rocky beaches and frigid ocean temperatures.

Someone once said that Hornby floated up from further south a millennia ago.

This may just be island lore but Hornby does seem to have a geography all its own.

It takes three ferries and the better part of a day to get there from Vancouver, which is fitting because the journey to Hornby is more like a pilgrimage to a sacred place.

Once your feet touch the ground or your car rolls off the boat, you are on Hornby time.

The air is a fragrant cocktail of salt, wild rose and black-



Two sisters play wistful music as cars board the ferry leaving Hornby Island.

ALL PHOTOS KAREN MACKENNA FOR TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

berry. Not far from the ferry docks you will come across the Cardboard House Bakery, an island landmark. It is a tradition in some families to stop here at the beginning of each holiday for a frangipane tart or some other delicious treat and sit with them in the bakery's

apple orchard. Take a moment here to ponder which beach you might visit on day one. Such are the tough decisions one must make on Hornby.

Each beach has its own unique offering. Tribune Bay draws the most tourists with its dramatic cliffs, white sand

and tropical vibe, but Pebble Beach and Whaling Station Bay —where the tide deposits new bounty each day, littering the ocean floor with sand dollars one day and spider crabs the next — are also excellent choices.

At low tide there are games



There is art in nature on this beautiful isle.

of bocce and skim boarders surfing the shallow pools. At high tide, families wade into the bathwater while children race to save their drowning sandcastles.

These are the scenes of summer — island rituals embedded in the mind's eye.

Hornby may be the only place in the world where you can dive with six-gilled sharks, but you may prefer the relative safety of a leisurely sea kayak trip around the island.

Hug the shoreline and you will see thousands upon thou-

sands of starfish clinging to the rocks.

It is an impossible sight only rivalled by a walk through old growth forest onto Helliwell Bluffs. Here the grass is so yellow and the sky and sea so blue that it feels as if you have stepped into an Edward Hopper painting.

At the end of Whaling Station Bay there is a thatched roof cottage. It is a beautiful piece of architecture that blends seamlessly into the tall grass. A modest jewel, like the island itself.

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MOVE-IN READY: NEW HOMES

Five advantages to buying move-in ready

You bide your time for years before you buy a home, but why should you have to wait years after that to move in? Many new home developments are now offering move-in ready homes that give home buyers the chance to move in within months or weeks of purchasing their home. If you're looking to buy a home, here's why you should consider one that's move-in ready.

Get a home that suits your lifestyle now
By the time you take possession of a new home after waiting years, who knows where you'll be in life. Maybe you'll have a job in a different location, across the city from where you had originally thought would be convenient to buy, or in a different place entirely.

Maybe your financial or family circumstances will be different, so you need one or two more or fewer rooms than you had expected. A move-in ready home lets you buy and move into a home that suits where you're at now.

See the final product before you buy
When you purchase a move-in ready home, you often actually see it before you buy.



ISTOCK

You may have the chance to walk through your actual future home, try the knobs and taps, look into cupboards, and really get a feel for whether the place is for you.

A show home just isn't the same
Experience the neighbourhood. Move-in ready homes are often available in master-

planned neighbourhoods that have been founded and built up for years prior, so there's already a rich neighbourhood to take part in when you get there. With a move-in ready home you can go see the neighbourhood for yourself before you buy.

Meet your potential neighbours
If your prospective community is already

established, it may have a neighbourhood association that organizes community events, consultations and workshops.

If you're looking at a move-in ready home in an established community, you may be able to contact them, ask questions, attend an event and get to know the other members of the community before you take the plunge.

HAVE THE PERFECT OUTDOOR OASIS THIS SUMMER

You're in your new home and now thinking about decorating. Interior design trends continue to straddle the outdoors — and nowhere is it more exciting than in this year's designs for the perfect patio oasis. No matter whether your outdoor space is large or small, there are now more options than ever to replicate the comfort and beauty found inside our homes with the latest products.

Lifestyle expert, Janette Ewen, partnered with The Home Depot Canada to share some of this year's top trends in outdoor decor.

Layered Patterns

Add dimension and texture to your outdoor space by layering attractive patterns. Outdoor rugs are a great way to incorporate both — they're now available in more designs and colours than ever before, so you can find something that suits your space while adding comfort and warmth on a cool evening. You can also get creative and DIY by spray-painting patterns with stencils onto an existing rug.

Would you like to play with patterns without making a huge investment? Try using wrapping paper — like bold stripes or chevron — as a table runner.

Whimsical Oasis

Incorporate lighting in mason jars or creative floral patterns to turn your terrace into an al fresco space ready for any soirée.

Canadiana

Get nostalgic with traditional cottage décor like vintage canoe paddles, lake signage and found objects. And don't forget the staple Muskoka-style chairs. While the wooden ones give a more classic look, they are also available in more modern sleek designs and shades — and in kid-size.

Rustic English Garden

Go Downton Abbey with soft touches of pastels and Victorian-era design. Think about patios filled with flowers, herbs and oversized wicker



ISTOCK

furniture with plush cushions.

Nautical Accents

Thick stripes and preppy prints in classic reds and blues can add a hint of seaside splendour

to any outdoor space. Many cushions and pillows feature vibrant, fade-resistant colours and are made with high-quality weather-resistant materials so you no longer have to sacrifice style for staying power.



THIS MOMENT ON US

Save more, do more. From now until June 30th, when you purchase your home you will **receive 50% off all your interior upgrades***. Such as quartz countertops, hardwood flooring, electric fireplace, and everything else you've always wanted. Save cash on your home, so you can:



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Not the middle of a forest, it's your backyard

Trees surround you and give you the sights and smells of nature. After a few steps you find yourself standing in lush greenery: ravine, trees, creek, and walking paths that draw you into this beautiful property. The deer come visit in the morning and evening, and you can hear the birds sing along with the breeze through the leaves.

This might sound like a dream recreation property of yours: a place close to nature that you could visit once and awhile, and then lock up and jet back to the City when it's time to go. But wouldn't it be nice to have all this while still enjoying all the benefits of living in the City. Fortunately, you can have it all at The Parc at Edgemont Ravine.

"You get to live in a rare ravine setting, yet with all the great amenities you want in a vibrant City just minutes away," says Clay Hamdon, president of Cove Properties, one of Alberta's premier luxury condominium builders.

The Parc is in the City's new Edgemont community southwest of Wedgewood Ravine and just a few minutes from the Lessard and Callingwood shopping areas. With quick access to the Whitemud Freeway and Anthony Henday Drive, residents at The Parc can get anywhere and anything they need quickly.

This new 87 unit adult-only project in Edgemont/Woodhaven is perfect for those who are looking to upgrade, yet simplify their life. With 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom prices starting from \$256,900, these spacious units are affordable for those looking for the good life, whether already in retirement or about to set aside the daily grind in favor of a more relaxed lifestyle.

"We've been building here in Alberta for over 24 years," says Hamdon. "We know our market and our customers want comfort, quality, space, and an upscale finish. Thus, we develop and build our properties as if we were going to live in them ourselves."

Cove Properties is building The Parc at Edgemont Ravine for comfort, security and dependability. With 24-hour video surveillance, secure, heated underground parking, oversized suites and balconies, and individual storage lockers for all, homeowners at The Parc can lock their front door and travel the world — all with peace of mind.

"It's a beautiful setting and beautiful architecture, that's what's attracting the buyers," says Khalid Saleh, senior sales associate at The Parc. "They come for the location, but decide to buy when they see the floor plans and the finishes. Most buyers are downsizing from a house, and the spacious plans make that transition easy."

Buyers are impressed with the condo's surroundings. "A location like this is a rare



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find. It's got a park on the east side, it's got a ravine on the south side, and it has a tree nursery on the north side. And there's two man made bodies of water within a stone's throw. The shrubbery and turf around this complex is second to none," says Saleh.

Cove is proud of the project and is more than happy to share all its benefits and

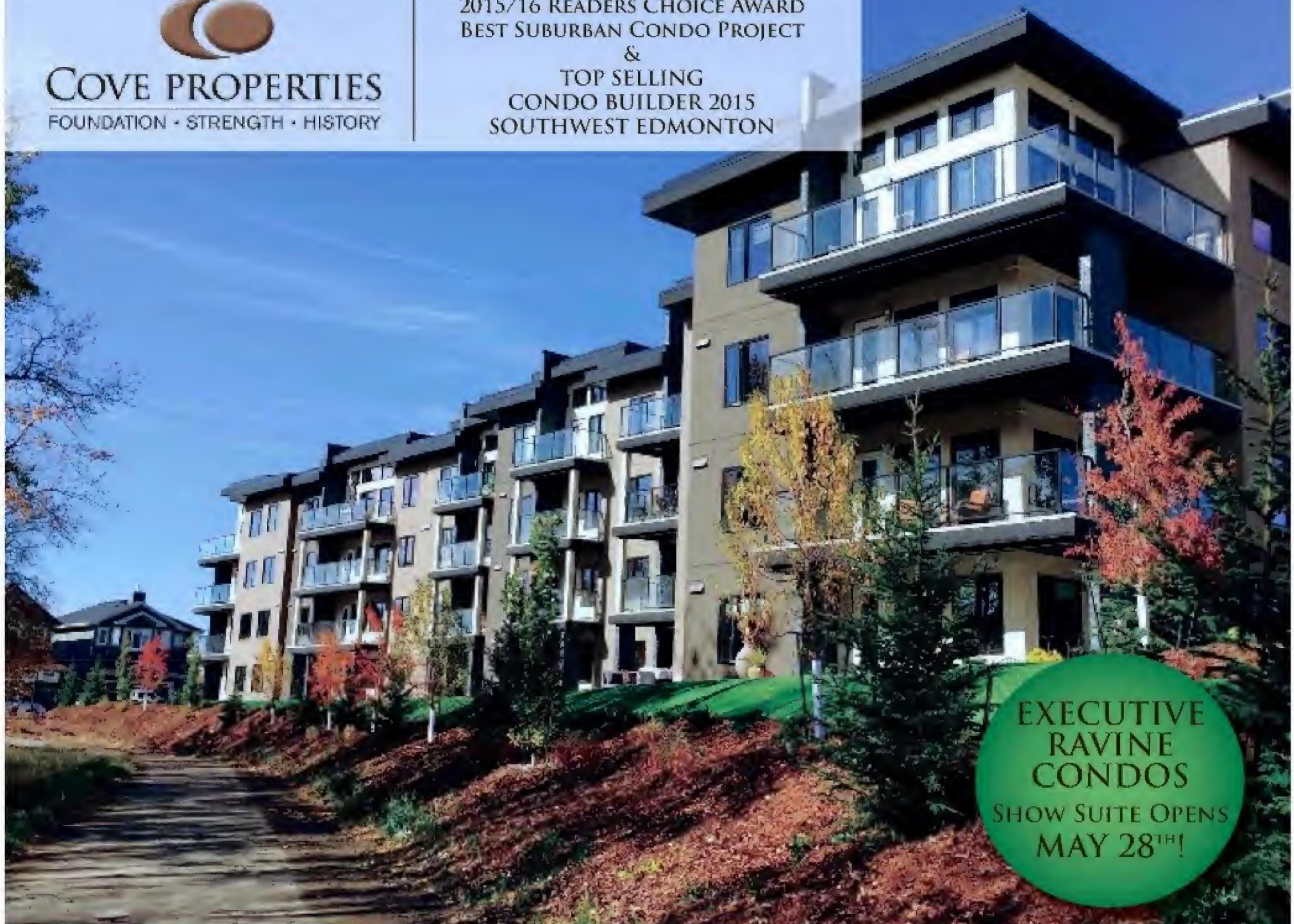
attributes with all who come and see it for themselves. "We've put all the information about The Parc that could fit on our website at theparc.ca," says Saleh, "but you should really come out and see this magnificent location and building for yourself. That's what's nice about working on a project like this: great site, great

builder, great units — what's not to be excited about."

Understandably, just hearing about The Parc at Edgemont won't be enough to sell you on a condo. Come see it for yourself, as even Saleh admits "the best salespeople are simply the birds, whistling in the trees".



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Outstanding environmental achievements

Twenty-five years ago, the Emerald Awards held its first event to recognize and celebrate outstanding environmental achievements from large and small businesses, individuals, not-for-profit associations, community groups, youth and governments across Alberta.

Since then, there have been 768 finalists and 280 recipients.

"Every single one of these organizations and individuals has made a significant contribution to Alberta's ability to balance growth and resource development with preserving our environment. That's quite something," says Carmen Boyko, executive director at Alberta Emerald Foundation. "This year, we have 32 finalists, 12 of which will be announced as recipients."

The Emerald Awards is the only award program of its kind in Canada to showcase environmental excellence in all sizes and across all sectors — from community leaders and start-ups to international oil and gas producers.

The Emerald Awards applaud dozens of environmental leaders and showcase projects that demonstrate environmental excellence, setting example for everyone across the province.

By celebrating excellence in environmental leadership, the Emerald Awards and the Alberta Emerald Foundation are raising the public's awareness about and around stewardship.

The 25th Annual Emerald Awards will be presented on June 8, 2016 at Telus Spark in Calgary. Meet three of the nominees.

Cree water ceremony all about healing

Roy and Judy Louis have a strong spiritual belief that water is to be considered living and must be respected. The couple revived a traditional Cree ceremony — the Blessing of the Water Ceremony — to honour the Battle River as well as share knowledge between First Nations' peoples and other people.

Before the couple started asking elders to perform the special water ceremony in 2012, it hadn't been performed by the Samson Cree in 65 years. The Samson Cree Nation is one of four Cree bands that live on the Maskwacis Reserve.

The couple live next to the Battle River — "one of the most serene and peaceful places on Mother Earth," according to WeAreCree.com. The Battle River runs 800 km from Battle Lake to the Saskatchewan border. The river joins the North Saskatchewan River in Battleford, Saskatchewan.

Roy and Judy Louis feel that First Nations



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cultural and social practices around water should be preserved and the land and water can be healed. Furthermore, they believe that by bringing back and sharing the ancient tradition

of the water ceremony, they can help people to heal. They invite elders, community members and non-Aboriginal people to their land for the ceremony.

Four is a significant number for many First Nations people, and as such, the Louis' made the commitment to host the water ceremony on their land for four consecutive years, from 2012–2015.

The Samson Cree Nation has a number of different cultural and social practices that involve water and Roy and Judy are working to bring to light some of these practices for other First Nations peoples as well as non-aboriginal people.

The couple's dedication and commitment to bringing back the ancient water ceremony Roy has fostered many new relationships and strengthened others between and among First Nations and non-aboriginal people.

BEAVER HILLS GETS UNESCO DESIGNATION

The distinct moraine landscape of Beaver Hills, just east of Edmonton, was designated a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization — UNESCO — Biosphere in March of 2016.

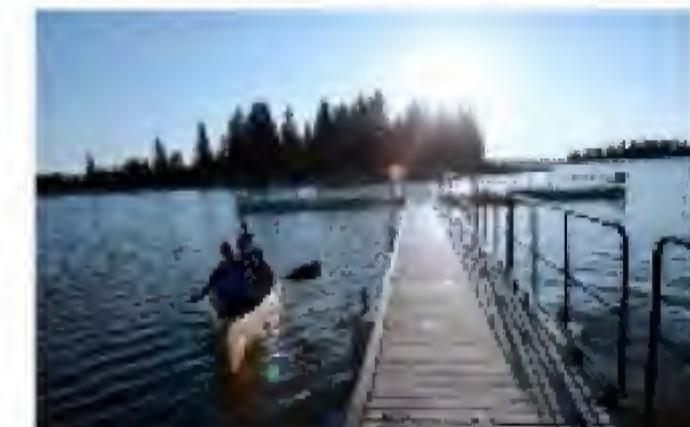
"This designation is international recognition for all the work that's been done in this special area to maintain biodiversity and foster ecologically, socio-culturally sustainable human and economic development in this lived-in and working landscape," says Kiley Marchuk, Chair of Communication and Outreach Working Group, Beaver Hills Initiative.

That work started in 2002 when four municipalities — Strathcona County, Lamont County, Beaver County and Leduc County — came together with the federal and provincial governments, Indigenous communities, academics, non-governmental organizations and industry to create the Beaver Hills Initiative (BHI).

The members of the BHI work together to promote a bioregional approach to land management to conserve the landscape, while integrating social, economic, cultural elements in harmony with the environment. Over the years, BHI's shared initiatives and coordinated action have grown in both scope and impact.

"Becoming a UNESCO Biosphere helps us continue our work and sharing our research and tools with the public, other biospheres and land use decision makers outside the Beaver Hills," says Marchuk. "Being a finalist for a 2016 Emerald Award in conjunction with the biosphere designation further raises the profile and encourages the sharing of information in support of sustainable development."

The UNESCO Biosphere Reserve designation provides global recognition of the community's commitment to conservation planning and sustainable development. "We look forward to



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continuing our work with government, industry and residents so that we continue to sustainably develop this area," says Marchuk. "Emerald Awards raise awareness and celebrate projects that go beyond normal land management practices and have a positive impact on residents and the environment. We're excited to be recognized for our work and look forward to moving forward with our partners and the community."



Every #EcoHero Needs a Sidekick!

The Alberta Emerald Foundation believes in supporting the next generation of environmental leaders.

By donating to our Youth Environmental Engagement Grant program, you can help a young person's green dream become a reality.

Find out more about this exciting grant program today at emeraclfoundation.ca



Reuse Centre helping city meet waste reduction goals

The City of Edmonton aims to divert up to 90 per cent of residential waste from the landfill and its Reuse Centre — a drop-off facility for household materials — is helping meet that goal. Last year alone, the centre had nearly 30,000 customer visits and accepted 243 tonnes in donations.

"It's amazing to see how much waste we've been able to divert from the landfill through the simple act of reuse," says Connie Boyce, Director, Community Relations Waste Management Services, [City of Edmonton.] Since we opened in 2007 and through 2015, we have had nearly 169,000 customer visits. We're very pleased that we're able to offer an affordable means for residents and organizations to purchase and reuse donated items."

The Reuse Centre accepts a lot of items that aren't accepted elsewhere and then it makes those items available for people or organizations to purchase for a nominal fee.

"The Reuse Centre wouldn't have been

successful without all the support that our volunteers, customers, residents, and community organizations have provided to us over the years," says Boyce. "As word has spread, so have our donations and our supporters. We're proud of our customers, and proud of our team of dedicated staff and volunteers."

The centre moved to a larger location in 2014 to accommodate the growing number of customers and donations. With educational and community engagement, it enhances awareness and promotes the benefits of reuse.

"It is an honour just to be nominated for an Emerald Award and to be considered as one of the finalists. We are very pleased with the Reuse Centre's accomplishments, and want to share our success story with Edmonton," says Boyce. "Over the last 25 years, there have been so many award finalists who have gone above and beyond towards making Alberta a cleaner and greener place to live, work, play, and grow."



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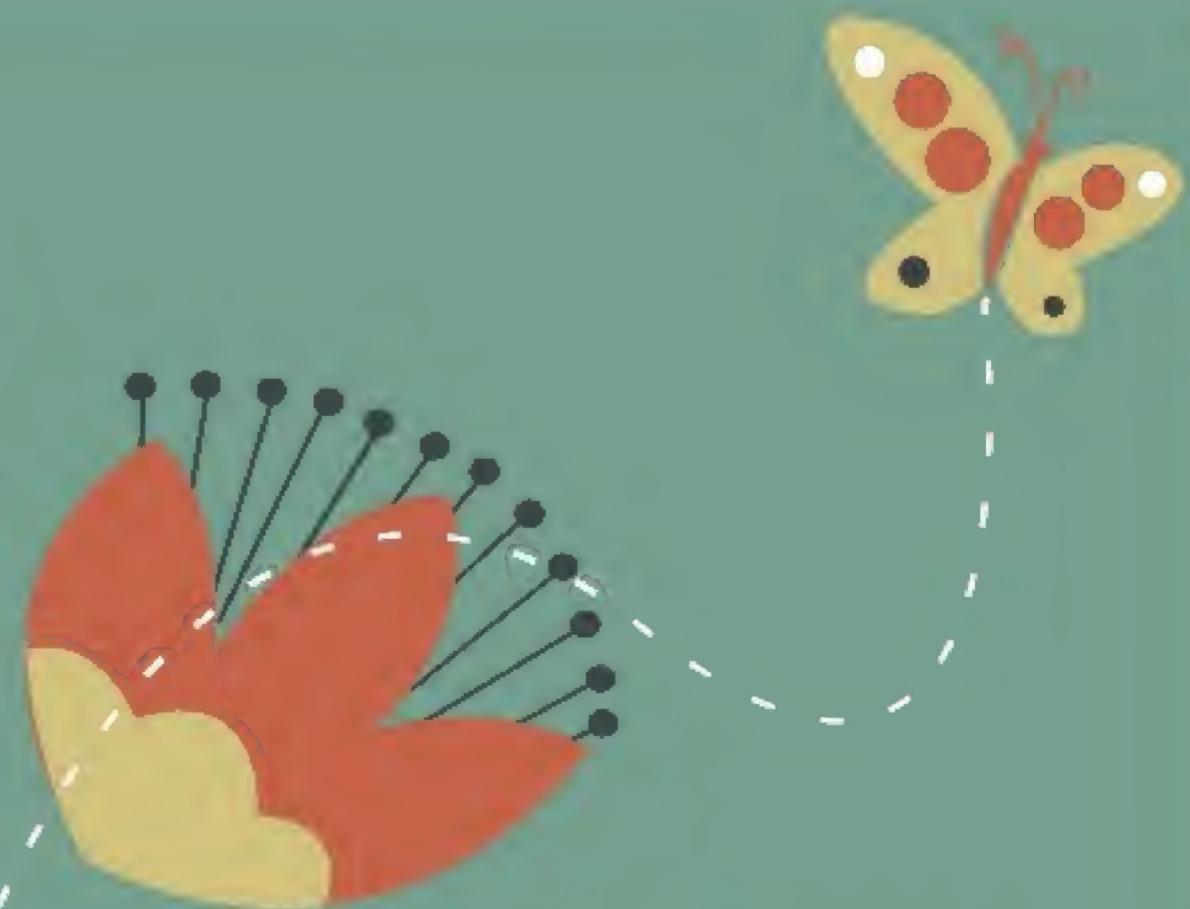
Alberta Emerald Foundation 25TH ANNUAL EMERALD AWARDS

Recognizing and celebrating environmental excellence in Alberta.

Since 1992, the Alberta Emerald Foundation has showcased 280 recipients and over 760 finalists through the Emerald Awards program.

This year, an independent panel of judges selected 32 examples of environmental innovation and leadership as the 2016 Emerald Awards Finalists.

The 25th Annual Emerald Awards will be announced on June 8, 2016 at Telus Spark in Calgary.



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Patrick Marleau and Joe Thornton had played a combined 2,778 games without making a Stanley Cup final before their series win over St. Louis

Lightning Rust away

NHL PLAYOFFS

Pens advance to Cup final after winger's pair of goals

Bryan Rust scored a pair of second-period goals and Matt Murray stopped 16 shots to lift the Pittsburgh Penguins to a 2-1 victory over the Tampa Bay Lightning in Game 7 of the Eastern Conference final on Thursday night to send the franchise to the Stanley Cup final for the first time since 2009.

Pittsburgh will host Western Conference champion San Jose in Game 1 of the final Monday night.

Former Halifax Moosehead Jonathan Drouin scored his fifth goal of the playoffs for the Lightning and Andrei Vasilevskiy made 37 saves, but it wasn't enough to send Tampa Bay back to the Cup final for a second straight year. Captain Steven Stamkos had two shots in his return from a two-month layoff while dealing with a blood clot.

The Penguins avoided elimination with a borderline dominant 5-2 victory in Game 6 that provided a snapshot of the formula that fuelled their rise through the Eastern Conference standings shortly after coach Mike Sullivan's arrival in mid-December. Sullivan calls it "playing the right way," a way abetted by the influx



The Penguins' Bryan Rust celebrates one of his two goals against the Lightning on Thursday night in Pittsburgh.

JUSTIN K. ALLER/GETTY IMAGES

GAME 7 In Pittsburgh



of speed brought in by general manager Jim Rutherford. That group includes Rust, who forced his way onto the roster thanks to feverish skating and a relentlessness that belies his non-descript five-foot-11 frame.

That effort — or "desperation level" as captain Sidney Crosby calls it — provided the Penguins with the boost

they needed to overcome a bit of unfortunate history and the return of Stamkos. Pittsburgh had dropped five straight Game 7s at home, including a 1-0 loss to Tampa Bay in 2011 in a series in which both Crosby and Evgeni Malkin missed due to injury. That loss had become symbolic of the franchise's post-season shortcomings following that

gritty run to the Cup in 2009 that culminated with a Game 7 win in Detroit that was supposed to be the launching pad of a dynasty.

Seven long years later, with an entirely new cast around mainstays Crosby, Malkin, Kris Letang, Chris Kunitz and Marc-Andre Fleury, the Penguins are finally heading back.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA PLAYOFFS

Raptors downplay late-night activity

The Toronto Raptors are playing down a late-night visit to a Cleveland casino by two players on the eve of a blowout loss, saying NBA players have a different schedule than most.

DeMarre Carroll and Cory Joseph were seen in a casino near their hotel just before 2 a.m. Wednesday. Later that day, the Raptors were hammered 116-78 by the Cavaliers in Game 5 of the Eastern Conference final.

Toronto guard DeMar DeRozan called the fuss about the story crazy, saying he was up until 4 a.m. in his hotel room that night watching Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice.

"Would that be a story?" DeRozan asked.

He said he couldn't remember the last time he was in bed before 2:30 or 3 a.m., often leaving the gym at 1 or 2 a.m.

Raptors coach Dwane Casey says the two players are adults, weren't drinking and broke no laws. He says his concern was not the players' late-night walkabout but "getting our butt kicked."

As for the two players in question, they say the story was overblown.

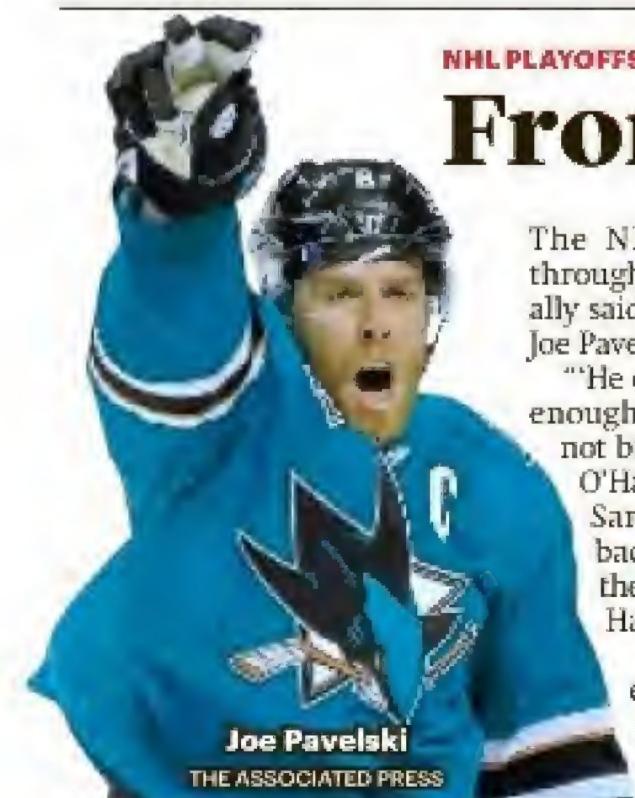
Joseph says he still got plenty of sleep ahead of the game. Carroll says the reporter who wrote the story was "fishing a little bit."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Go to metronews.ca for coverage of Thunder-Warriors Game 5.

NHL PLAYOFFS

From late draft pick to Conn Smythe favourite



The NHL scouts parading through Waterloo, Iowa, usually said the same thing about Joe Pavelski.

"He can't skate, he's not big enough. He can't skate, he's not big enough," recalls P.K. O'Handley, who coached the San Jose Sharks forward back when he captained the USHL's Waterloo Black Hawks nearly 15 years ago.

Concerns ran deep enough that Pavelski, second only to superstar Alex Ovechkin in goals over the past

three NHL seasons and the current Conn Smythe favourite with 13 playoff goals, fell to the seventh round of the 2003 draft, going 205th overall to the Sharks.

While intrigued by Pavelski, the Sharks didn't even use their first (of two) seventh-round picks to take him, opting instead for a French-Canadian forward who never played an NHL game.

How does a player with such apparent flaws — a lack of size and speed — rise into one of the league's premier players and goal-scorers?

It starts with a feel for the

“His hockey IQ, even at 17, was off the chart.”
Pavelski’s former coach
P.K. O’Handley

game that former coaches describe as uncommon. The five-foot-11, 190-pound Pavelski may not have been pretty to watch, but he could process the game quickly and that allowed him to make a play or score a goal.

"He's always thinking about four steps ahead of everybody else, even at the high school level, at the junior level and then ultimately at our level, here at Wisconsin," said Mark Osiecki, a former Badgers assistant who recently returned to the university's program.

"His mind for the game, his will to succeed, is at a super, super high level."

Pavelski, 31, is an ace jack of all trades for San Jose. He's a focal point of a top power-play unit, kills penalties and wins 55 per cent of his faceoffs, among the

top marks in the league.

He rarely gets mentioned in the company of Ovechkin, Lightning captain Steven Stamkos or Anaheim veteran Corey Perry, but he's been every bit as accomplished as a goal-scorer, too.

Unlike Ovechkin and Stamkos, known for scoring in one or two prominent ways, Pavelski scores in bunches every which way.

A look at Pavelski's tally of 13 post-season goals reveals the variety: six slapshots, two tips, two wrist shots, one wraparound, one backhand and one snapshot.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Madrid's top-tier talent

Real Madrid and Atletico Madrid are filled with players who are in top form ahead of Saturday's Champions League final. Cristiano Ronaldo will be attracting most of the attention as he tries to win his second European trophy with Real Madrid, but plenty of his teammates and many of his opponents at Atletico have shown they are capable of breaking through with a great performance in the biggest game of the season. Here's a look at some of the players who could shine in the final in Milan:

GARETH BALE

Bale has yet to score in this season's Champions League but thrived in the final stages of the Spanish league, scoring four goals in the final four matches as Ronaldo was sidelined because of an injury. Bale proved to be decisive in the previous finals he played with Real Madrid, scoring when the team won the Champions League, the Copa del Rey and the Club World Cup in 2014. "I don't know what the secret to it is," Bale said. "In a final everyone looks to give the best of themselves and I hope on Saturday I can get a goal and it's enough to win the title."

1



MIGUEL RIOPA/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

FERNANDO TORRES

A veteran of three World Cups and three European Championships, Torres is used to the big stage. He scored a goal in the final both times that Spain won the European title, in 2008 and 2012. The 32-year-old Atletico striker finished the season well and scored goals in the last two league games. "I have ahead of me the most important games I will play in my life," Torres said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



FRANCISCO SECO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2

ANTOINE GRIEZMANN

France forward Griezmann is enjoying his best season and has scored seven of Atletico's 16 goals in this season's Champions League, including three in the team's last three matches. He scored both goals in the win over defending champion Barcelona in the second leg of the quarter-finals, and the decisive one that allowed his team to advance past Bayern Munich in the semifinals. "I've had a great season and hopefully it'll end on a high note," Griezmann said.

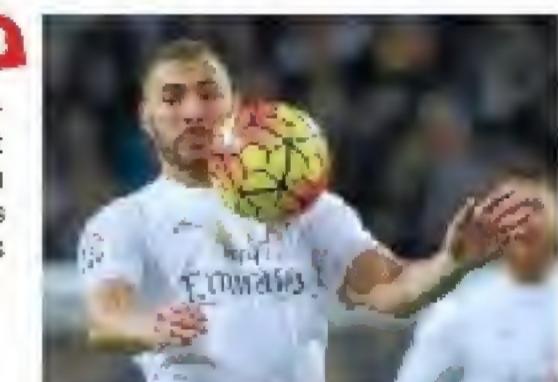


CESAR MANSO/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

KARIM BENZEMA

The striker has had a lacklustre season marked by off-the-field issues but remains one of Real Madrid's most dangerous players. He is the team's second-best scorer in the Champions League with eight goals, behind Ronaldo's 16. Benzema also finished just behind Ronaldo as the team's best scorer in Spanish league.

3



CURTO DE LA TORRE/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

MLB

Happ-y campers: Jays win series in NYC

In between retiring Yankees hitters, Toronto starter J.A. Happ could appreciate the moment of duelling with CC Sabathia.

"It was kind of fun, definitely, being out there — Yankee Stadium, pitching against him," Happ said after a strong seven-inning outing Thursday.

Edwin Encarnacion and Devon Travis had two-out RBIs, and the Blue Jays beat New York 3-1 to win the three-game series and wrap up a 5-2 road trip.

Sabathia was the tough-luck loser, allowing just two unearned runs. Alex Rodriguez went 0-for-4 with two strikeouts in his first game since going on the disabled list May 4 with a strained right hamstring.

Happ (6-2) allowed one run and three hits with five strikeouts and three walks. He has given up three earned runs or fewer in 19 of his past 20 starts.

Sabathia (3-3) retired the first seven batters before an error by shortstop Didi Gregor-

THURSDAY In New York



ius on Travis' grounder with one out in the third. Sabathia retired No. 9 hitter Darwin Barney, but a single by Jose Bautista and a walk to Josh Donaldson loaded the bases. Encarnacion singled to left for the 2-1 lead.

Travis, playing in just his second game of 2016 after off-season shoulder surgery, singled with two outs in the ninth off a 102 m.p.h. fastball from Aroldis Chapman to drive in Justin Smoak for the insurance run.

"I just did my best to fight and put it in play, and thankfully it found a hole," Travis said.

Roberto Osuna pitched a perfect ninth for his 10th save in 11 chances.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Relief pitcher Roberto Osuna and catcher Russell Martin celebrate the Blue Jays' victory on Thursday. AL BELLO/GETTY IMAGES

IN BRIEF

Bradley Jr.'s streak ends at 29

Carlos Gonzalez, Trevor Story and Dustin Garneau hit two-run homers and the Colorado Rockies stopped Jackie Bradley Jr.'s 29-game hitting streak with a 8-2 victory over the Boston Red Sox on Thursday night.

The win ended a three-game losing streak by Colorado and it ended a four-game winning streak for the Red Sox. Bradley's major league-best streak was halted when he went 0 for 4 after moving up to the leadoff spot for the first time this season.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Harper bashes out slump

Bryce Harper hit a slum-busting home run, Danny Espinosa also went deep and the Washington Nationals got seven strong innings from right-hander Joe Ross in a 2-1 victory over the St. Louis Cardinals on Thursday night.

Washington trailed 1-0 in the sixth inning before Harper ended a 4-for-33 skid with a no-doubt-about-it shot into the upper deck, far beyond the wall in right field. It was his 12th homer of the season, the first since May 13. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bouchard eliminated in French Open second round

Eugenie Bouchard made an early exit from the French Open for the second straight year on Thursday, dropping a 6-4, 6-4 decision to Timea Bacsinszky in second-round play at the Grand Slam event.

Bouchard, from Westmount, Que., made the semifinals at Roland Garros in 2014 but lost in the first round last year.

On Thursday, she jumped out to a 4-1 lead before dropping 10 games in a row. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Baylor to fire football coach after sex assault review

Baylor University's board of regents says it will fire football coach Art Briles and re-assign university president Kenneth Starr in response to questions about its handling of sexual assault complaints against players.

Baylor said a law firm's review of its handling of sexual assault cases following allegations that the football program mishandled several cases of players attacking women revealed "a fundamental failure." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Trentin wins longest Giro stage, Kruijswijk retains lead

Matteo Trentin used a late counterattack and some crafty teamwork to win the longest stage of the Giro d'Italia on Thursday, while Steven Kruijswijk held on to a comfortable overall.

Kruijswijk leads Esteban Chaves by three minutes, with Alejandro Valverde 3:23 behind in third.

There are two challenging mountain stages Friday and Saturday before the 99th edition of the race ends in Turin on Sunday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHL keeping teens from AHL

The Canadian Hockey League says it has no intentions of changing its rules when it comes to underage players being allowed to join the American Hockey League. The AHL is not an option for CHL players until they turn 20.

"You're still allowed to be a young guy and once that's gone, it's gone," said CHL commissioner David Branch.

"There's a lot of social values, completing high school and maybe getting their university."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

RECIPE The ALT Sandwich

PHOTO: MAYA VISHNEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

We bet you won't miss the meat in this healthy twist on the classic BLT using creamy avocado mixed with the sweetness of fresh basil. We like the sound of those odds.

Ready in
Prep time: 5 minutes
Cook time: 10 minutes

Ingredients

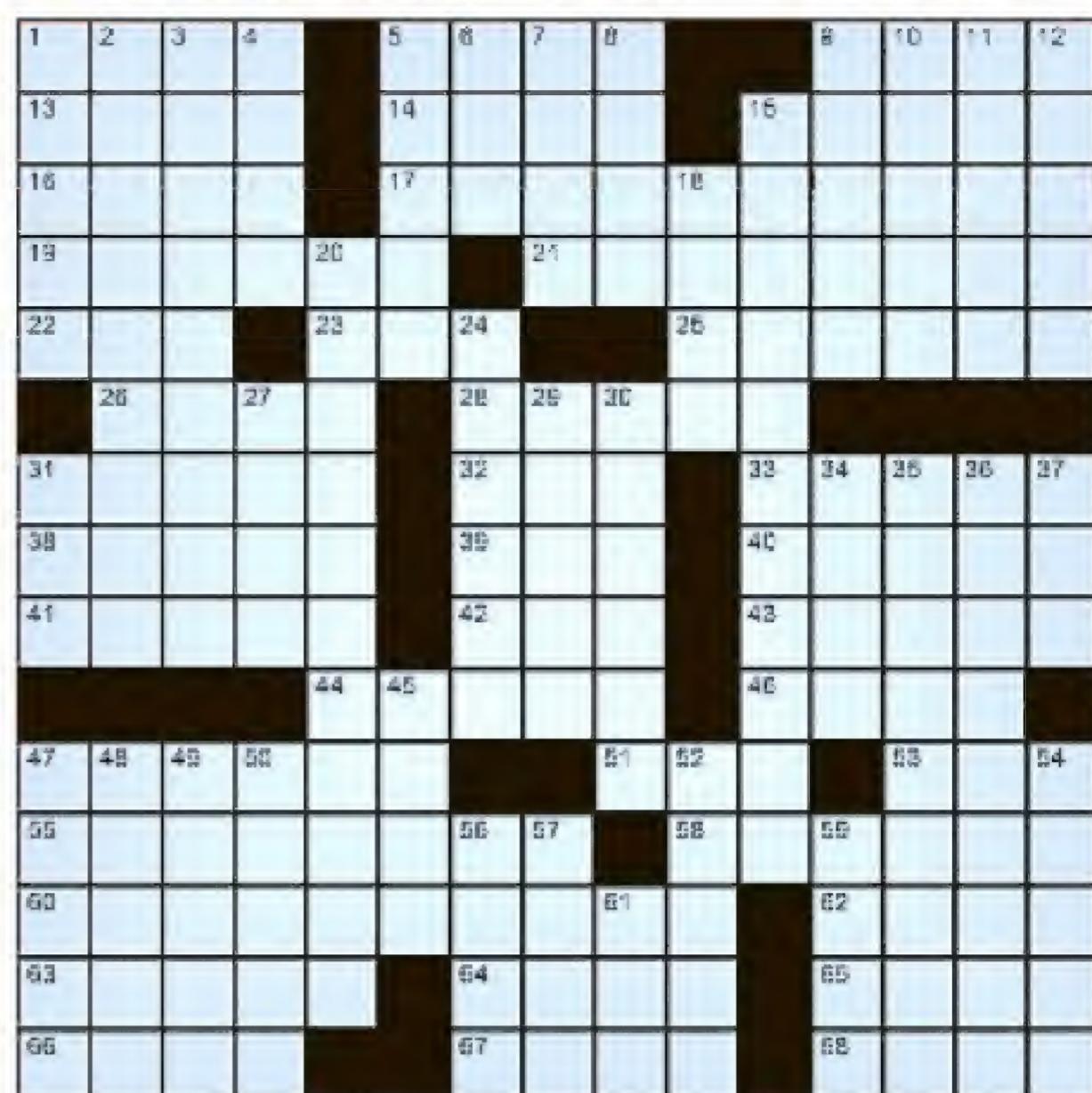
- 1 tomato
- 1 tsp olive oil
- Sea salt
- 1/2 avocado, pitted and mashed
- 1 tsp lemon juice
- 4 basil leaves, torn
- 4 pieces of multi-grain bread, toasted
- 1/2 head of Boston bibb lettuce

FOR MORE MEAL IDEAS, VISIT
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- Directions**
1. Cut tomato and place on a plate. Coat with olive oil and sprinkle with sea salt. Let stand.
 2. Meanwhile, mash avocado in a medium bowl and then add lemon juice and torn basil. Mix until smooth.
 3. Toast bread and then smear about a tablespoon and a half of the avocado spread onto the bread. Finish by adding tomato slices and a few pieces of lettuce. Cut in half or in quarters and serve with some cucumber slices.

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

**ACROSS**

1. Health food 'heart'
5. Cruise
9. " _ the Faith" by Bon Jovi
13. Computer company
14. __ Canadian (Common currency conversion)
15. Spanish composer, Manuel de _ (b.1876 - d.1946)
16. Auditioned-for dream
17. City in Quebec
19. L-thru-S sequence
21. University in Ottawa
22. Roll of grass
23. Turnaround, slangily
25. Most cunning
26. Micro
28. Standoffish
31. Plains roamer
32. What Paul Simon's Roy needn't be
33. Seasoned yogurt dip of India
38. Empire of Mexico
39. Gdays
40. "Back in the __ days."
41. Dishevelled
42. AC/DC's explosive tune
43. Sans stop-ping... 2 wds.
44. Actor Mr. Metcalfe
45. Two __ (Twenty dollar bill equivalent)
47. Martin Short comedy, "Three __" (1986)
51. Rug of Scan-

- dinavia symbols
- 53. Young sheep
 - 55. Summery drink
 - 58. Like a growing-in-the-high-mountain flower
 - 60. James McAvoy's role in "X-Men: Apocalypse" (2016); word + letter
 - 62. Card deck
63. Game cube guy
- Mr. Rubik's
 - 64. 'Moon'-meaning prefix
 - 65. Go through
 - 66. Big Apple denizen
 - 67. Stuck-here computer keyboard key

68. Likewise

DOWN

1. Damages
2. Follow a budget
3. Singers and songwriters
4. Get ready
5. Sugar, in Sherbrooke

6. Wynonna's actress sis
7. Medical suffix
8. "Livin' La Vida __" by Ricky Martin
9. Ms. Sagal of "Married... with Children"
10. A-List
11. "SL __ Fire" (1985)
12. Emulate Emi-

- ly Carr
- 15. Toronto-born comedian Samantha Bee's late night talk show, airing on The Comedy Network: 2 wds.
- 18. Roughly: 2 wds.
- 20. Composer of "Soul Bossa Nova" which was used as the theme music on classic Canadian game show "Definition": 2 wds.
- 24. Billionaire's fleet
- 27. Variantly-spelled refusals
- 29. Meat cuts
- 30. Prairie __ Canadian country band
- 31. Chef Emeril Lagasse's sound!
- 34. "Wake Me Up" singer Mr. Blacc
- 35. __ twins
- 36. Stress/anxiety
- 37. Moreover
- 45. Those, in Spain
- 47. Pertaining to Swiss peaks
- 48. Lighthearted/joyous
- 49. "...and God I know __" (Bit of "House of the Rising Sun")
- 50. " __ Soda" by Kim Mitchell
- 52. Math Class: Vertical graph line, __
- 54. Painter's art-work base
- 56. Fast web connections
- 57. Right' suffix
- 59. Dad
- 61. Medical pros

*** IT'S ALL IN THE STARS** Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20 Listen to advice from someone older today. Why not stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before you?

Taurus April 21 - May 21 Others might notice that you have done your homework. You are well-prepared, especially when it comes to discussions about shared property, inheritances and such.

Gemini May 22 - June 21 It's easy to study today. Likewise, it's relatively easy to fill out legal forms and do work that you might otherwise find daunting. (You're in the groove!)

Cancer June 22 - July 23 Discussions about shared property will go well today because you know what needs to be done and what needs to be said. You will come up with the resources to please a boss or someone experienced at work.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23 Be prepared to go more than halfway when dealing with others today, because the Moon is opposite your sign. People want to have serious discussions.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23 It will please you to keep things practical and orderly today. You want a place for everything and everything in its place. (No floaters, please.)

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23 You might have increased responsibilities with children today; however, you won't mind. In fact, you will fully accept the duties and obligations involved.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22 A discussion with a parent or an older family member will be productive today. The key is to show respect and look like you're listening, even if you aren't.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21 You will handle details and routine work superbly today, because you are mentally psyched for it. Let's face it — it's gotta be done. (And you know it's that simple.)

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20 You want to tie up loose details about financial matters today, because you are in a practical, sensible frame of mind.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19 Today the Moon is in your sign, dancing with Saturn. This means you will do whatever is necessary to get the job done because your own comforts will be of less importance.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20 Research of any kind will go well today, because you have focus, concentration and the energy to follow through. Get as much done as possible.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

1		7	5	6	3	
3				9		7
8						
5						2
7			3			9
1					4	
						5
6		5				1
4	2	7	6		9	

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